

ULTIMATE

SPIDER-MAN[®]

ISSUE
46

AFTERWARDS...



**BENDIS
BAGLEY
THIBERT**

MARVEL[®]

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #46

70 YEARS OF MARVEL COMICS

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70 YEARS
MARVEL
COMICS

TWO MONTHS AGO

I hate this.

S.H.I.E.L.D. procedure after any public--

I know, I know.

I was just offering my opinion.

That being, that I *hate* this.

Please state your name and rank for the record.

Yeah...

Sharon Carter, agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.

Class 5.

How long have you been an agent of S.H.I.E.L.D., Ms. Carter?

Whazit, June?

So six years next month.

How would you describe your duties?

I answer directly to General Nick Fury.

Or at least I *did* until General Fury put together his super team.

I do specialized field work... investigating public disturbances related to illegal, unnatural, genetic mutations.

What is the definition of an-- *what* was it?

An illegal, unnatural, genetic mutation.

How is that defined?

A mutant is someone *born* homo sapien superior.

A mutant gene is part of their birth biology and that, according to the United States, is considered an act of God.

An *unnatural* genetic mutation is someone who *purposely* alters their genetic makeup.

Most of my cases involve either *stopping* illegal experiments *before* they happen...

...or investigating the whereabouts of the actual subjects of the illegal experiments.

And it was that *kind* of investigation that brought you and your team out to New Jersey last night?

Yeah.

And for the record, what was the name of your target?

"Otto
Octavius."





"You can read the files on Octavius.

"But at this point he was officially an escaped, violent, illegal genetic mutation.

"S.H.I.E.L.D. was on his trail immediately!

"But for someone with four, huge, metal arms surgically grafted to his body and no money to his name...

"...he was doing a pretty good job keeping out of sight until *he* wanted to be heard from.

"Yeah, he called a press conference at Hammer's New Jersey installation.

"My mission was very clear in that we were to bring Octavius in as quickly and *quietly* as possible...

"...and he goes and calls a *press conference!!*

"Which, in turn, becomes just about the biggest circus you could imagine!

"Most networks covering it live!!

"And starring none other than that *other* illegal, genetic mutation you know as *Spider-Man.*"



"Needless to say I was a little fermished."

For those just joining us, the scene here in front of Hammer Industries has become a full out super hero battle royale!

This is a nightmare.



A nightmare.

Spider-Man has again leapt to the rescue of Justin Hammer and this crowd of gathered reporters.

"Crowd of gathered reporters", ladies and gentlemen!!



I cannot think of another time when the press was front seat to such an amazing display as this.

WHACK



CRACK

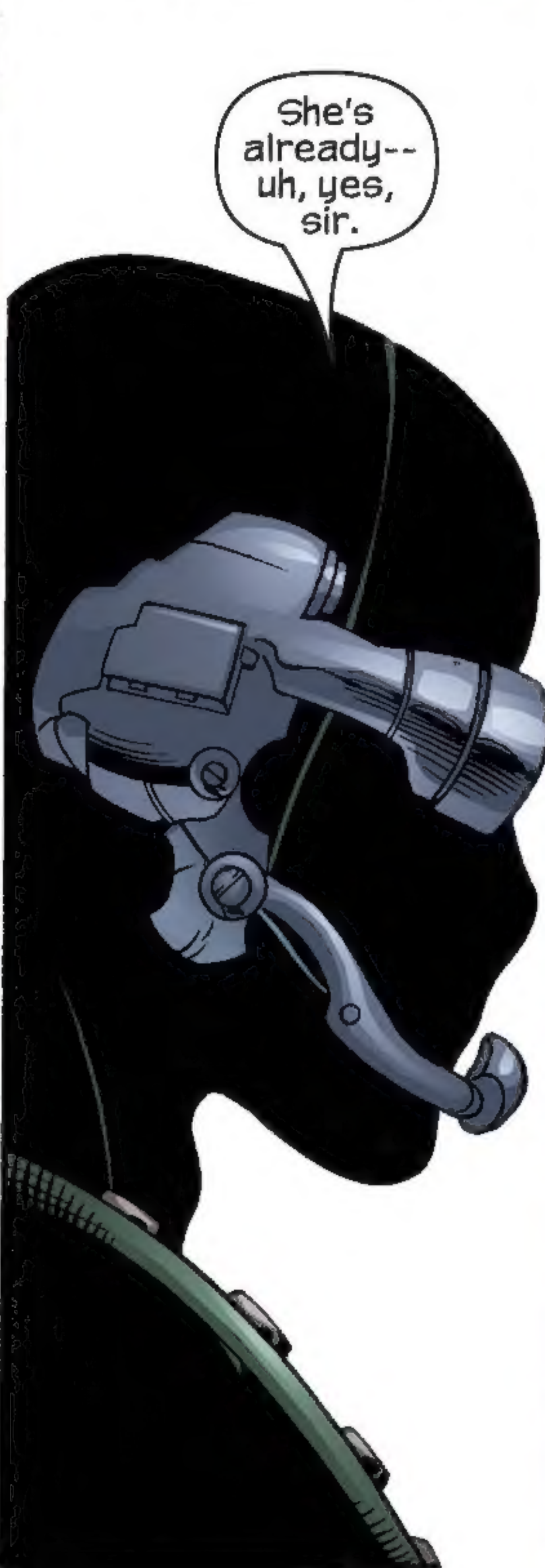
Uh, Agent Carter...?



Fury is on the line.



Tell him I'm already in the field.



She's already--uh, yes, sir.



He says he is watching it on TV and unless that's you in the Spider-Man costume you better get on the phone.

"By the time we got on the scene, it was over."

"Spider-Man beat the snot out of Doc Ock. Knocked him unconscious."

"(Which I *did* appreciate.)"

"The press was mostly still hanging around and why wouldn't they?"

"Plus the Jersey State Police and EMS were on the scene. There were all kinds of other commotion."



Hold on, it seems we have even more new arrivals to this tumultuous scene.



This is Carter. We have a big fat P.D.A.

We need a doggie bag, A.S.A.P.

Woo, make sure the Hammer Building is secure.

We're going to clear the civilians and pick up the Doctor.



Hi, who's the officer in charge?

I-I-I-I am... ma'am.

Hi. We'll take care of this one.

You go right ahead.

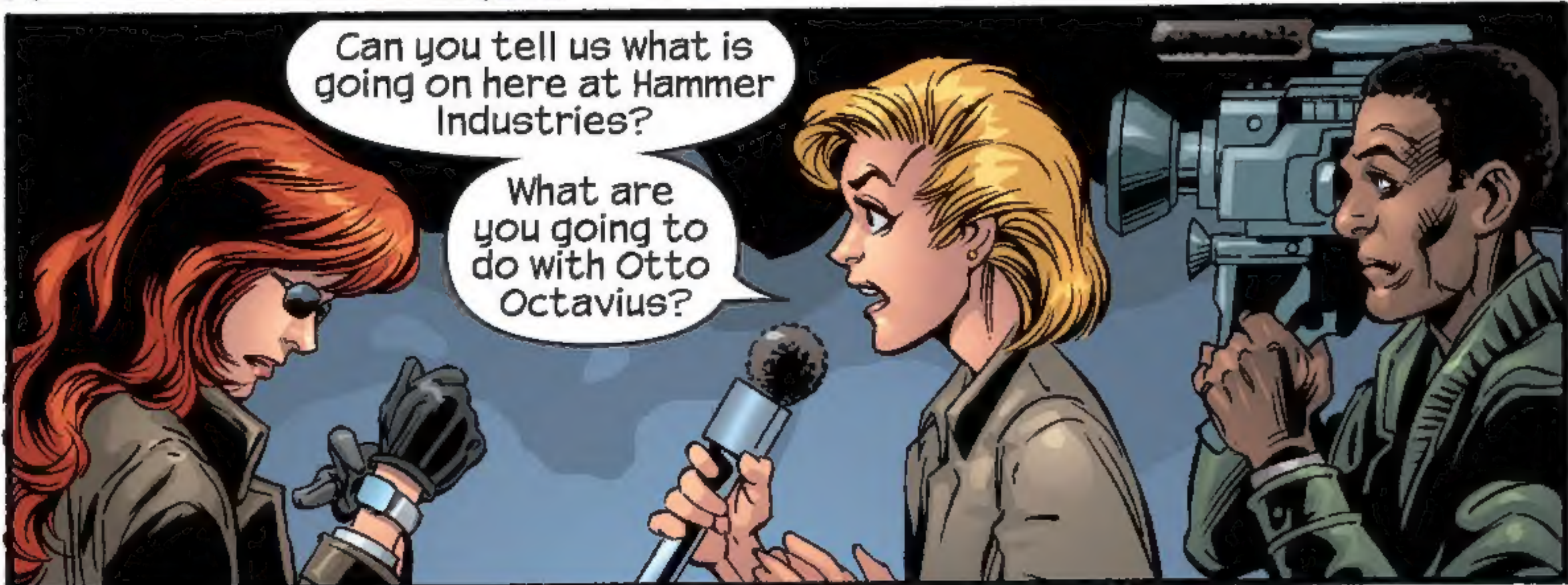
Wh-what is this guy? What's going on here?

Sorry to pull the wool on you, officer, but it's classified.



So if you'll just help us clear the area of civilians so we can quickly deal with this before innocent people get--

Excuse me? Hello? Are you F.B.I.?



Can you tell us what is going on here at Hammer Industries?

What are you going to do with Otto Octavius?



And can you comment on some of the vague allegations Otto Octavius made here about genetic--

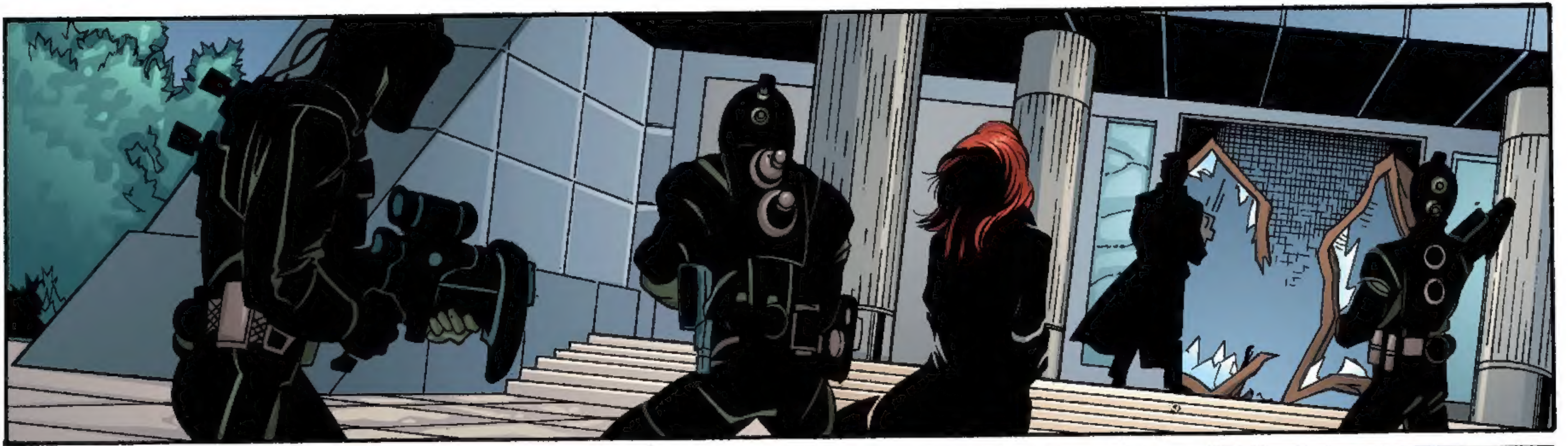
Tracy, we lost the feed.

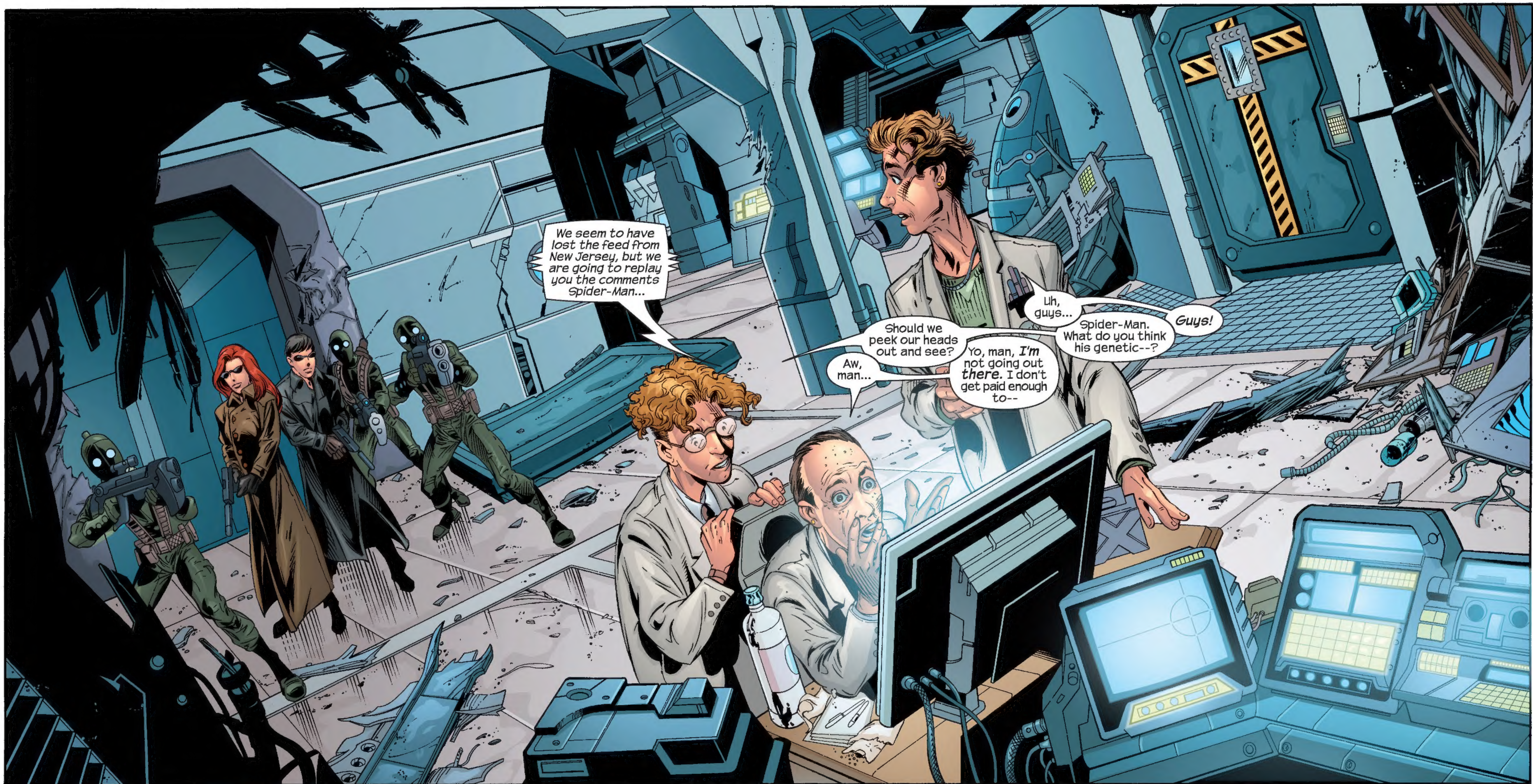


You lost your feed.



"But my *primary* concern was the Hammer genetic laboratory that we didn't even know *existed* until Doc Ock pointed it out to us... on TV!"





We seem to have lost the feed from New Jersey, but we are going to replay you the comments Spider-Man...

Uh, guys...
Should we peek our heads out and see?
Aw, man...
Yo, man, I'm not going out there. I don't get paid enough to--

Spider-Man. What do you think his genetic--?
Guys!



Hands up!



Who else is in the building?

N-no one.

We had-- everyone took off.

Octavius came in here before and really scared the crap out of--

Why didn't you run away?

We live here.

You live here?

I'm not leaving our experiment.

Shut up!

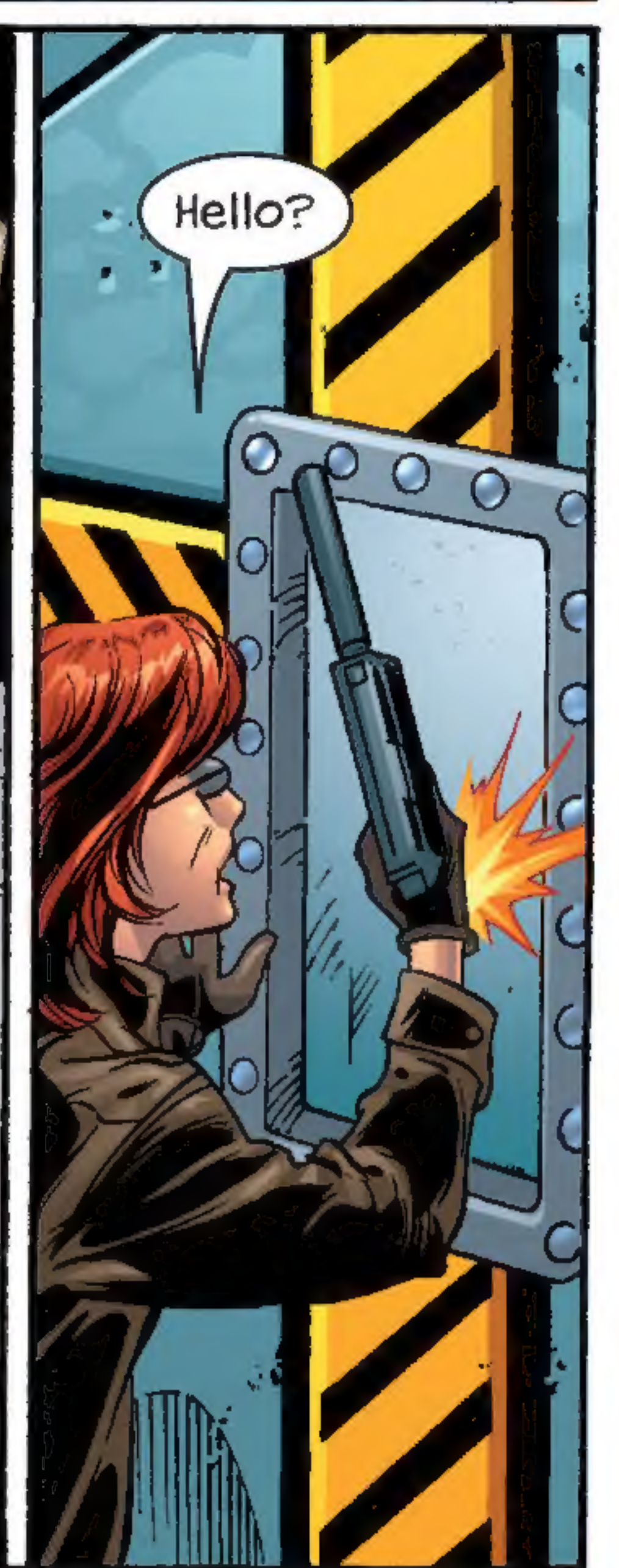
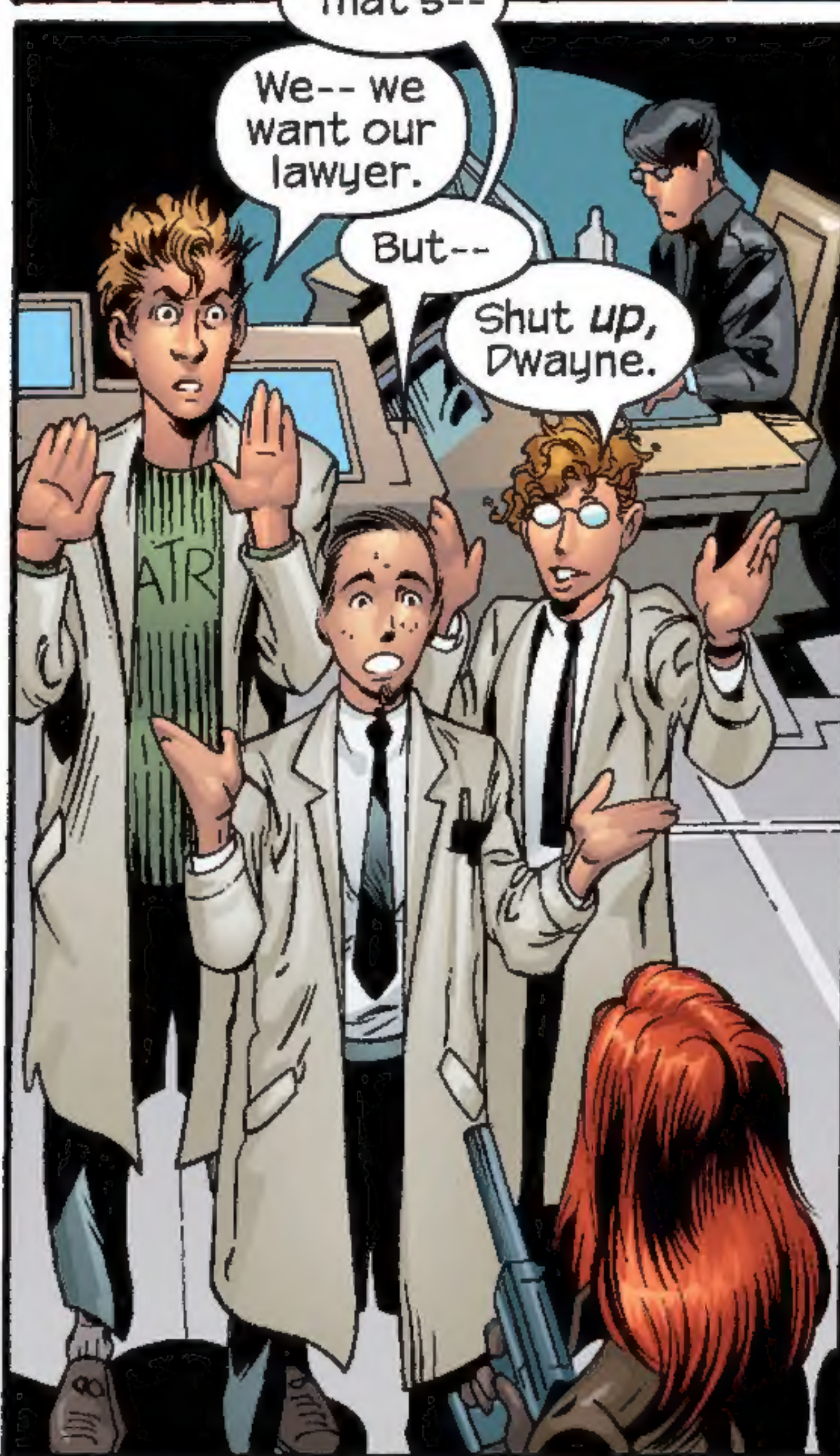
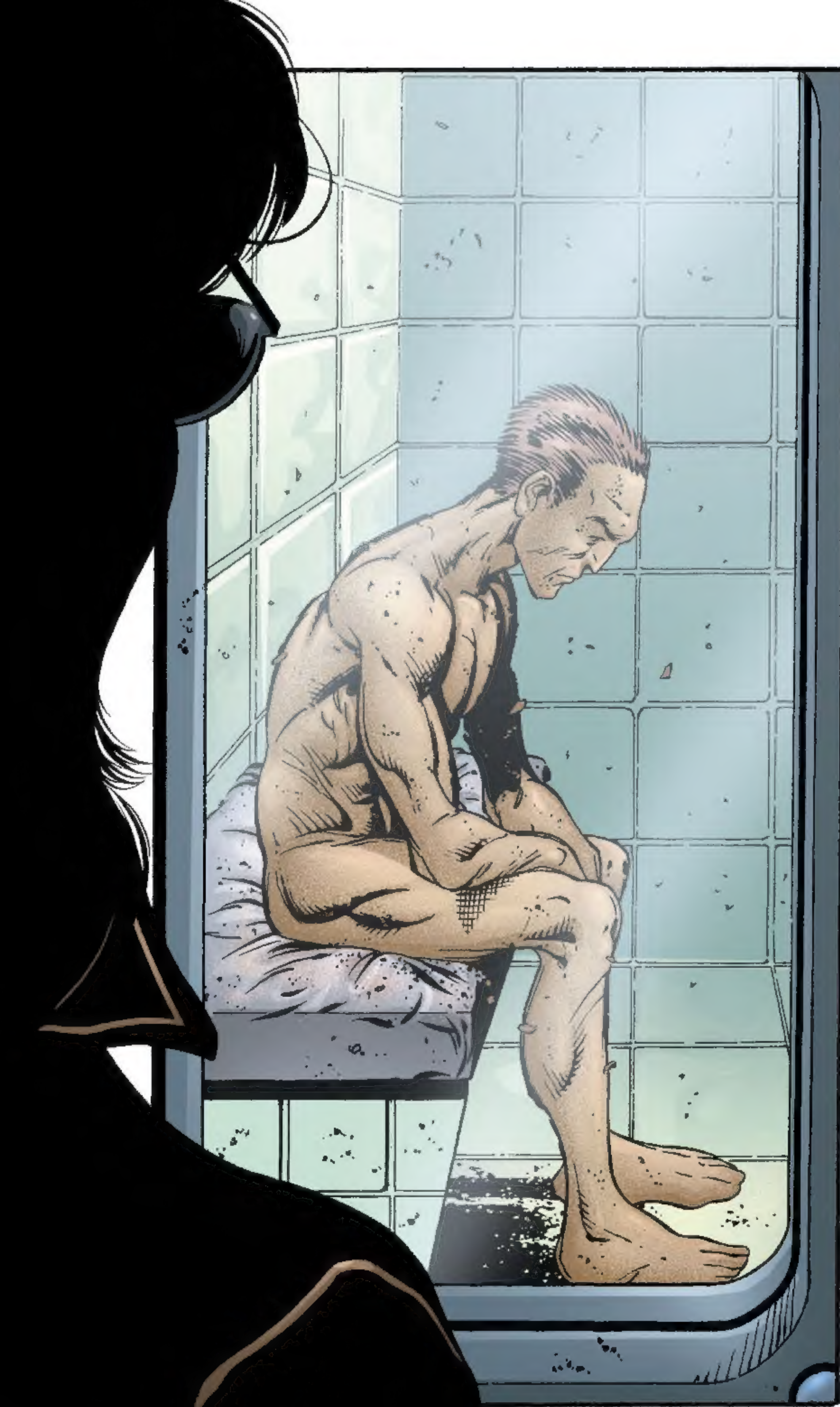


What experiment?

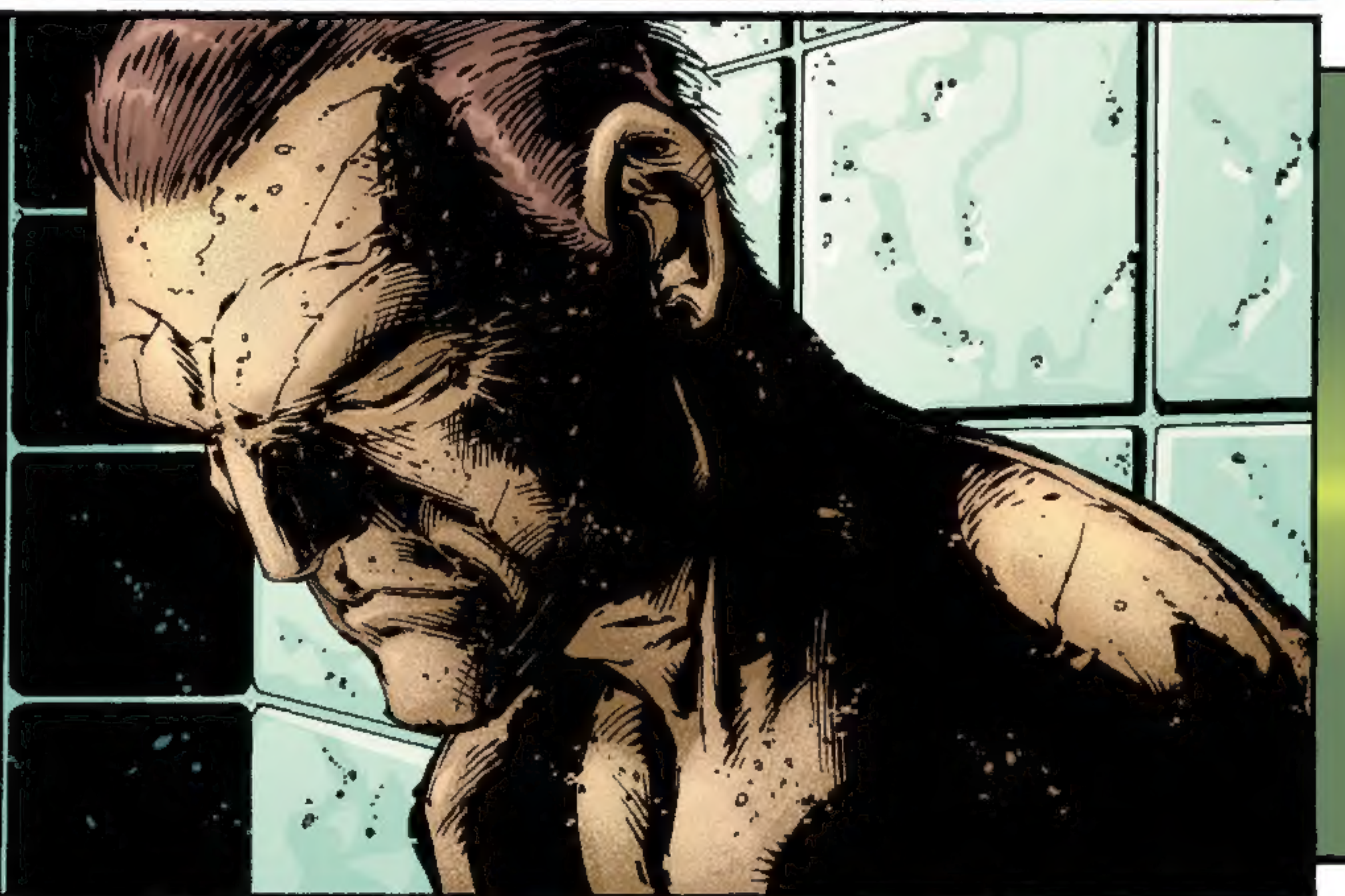
Uh, Agent Carter. There's--

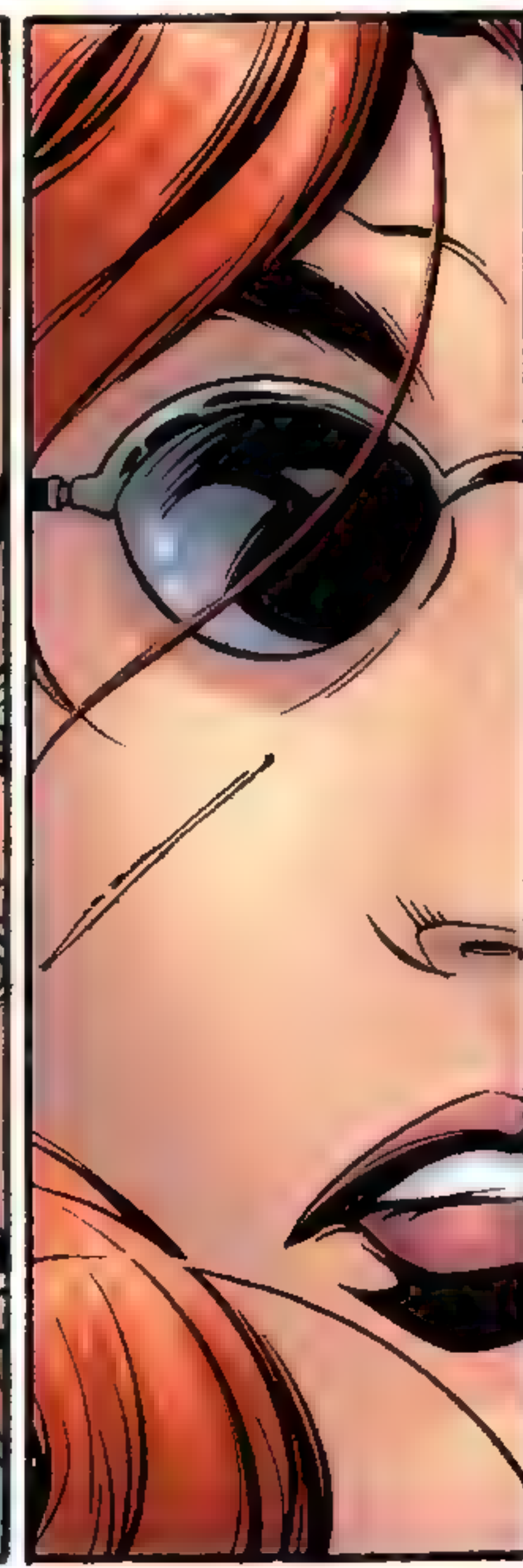
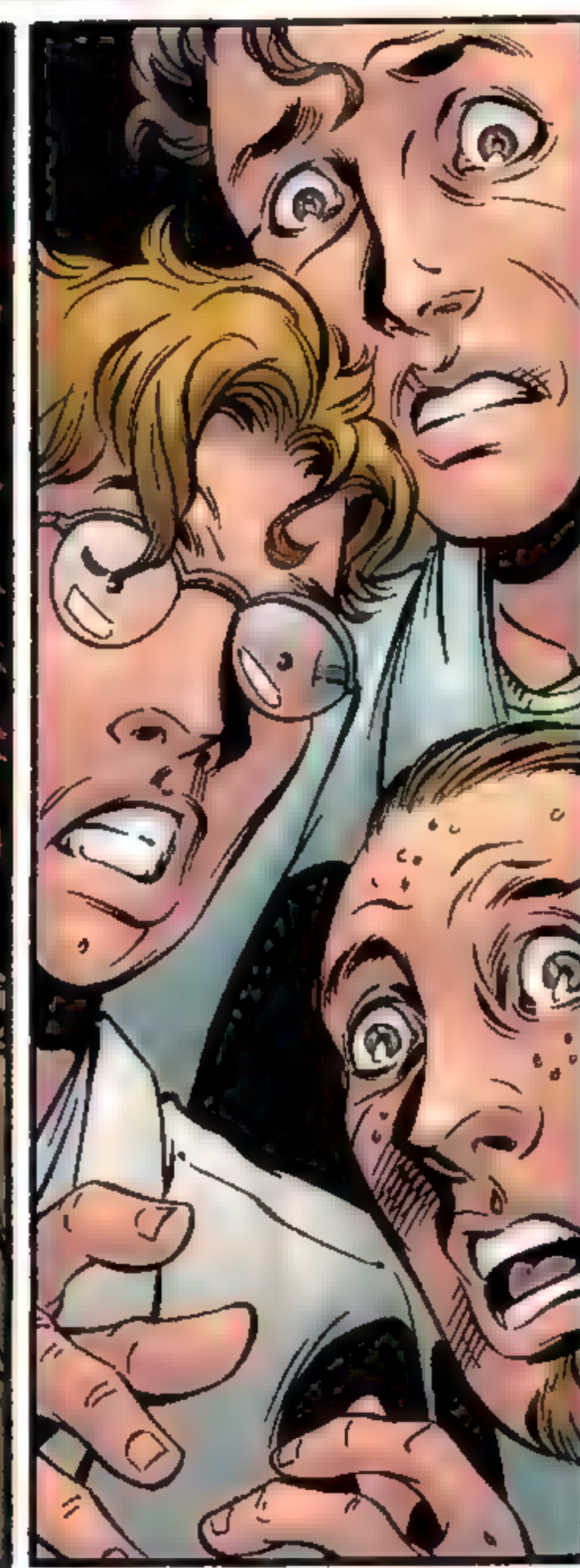
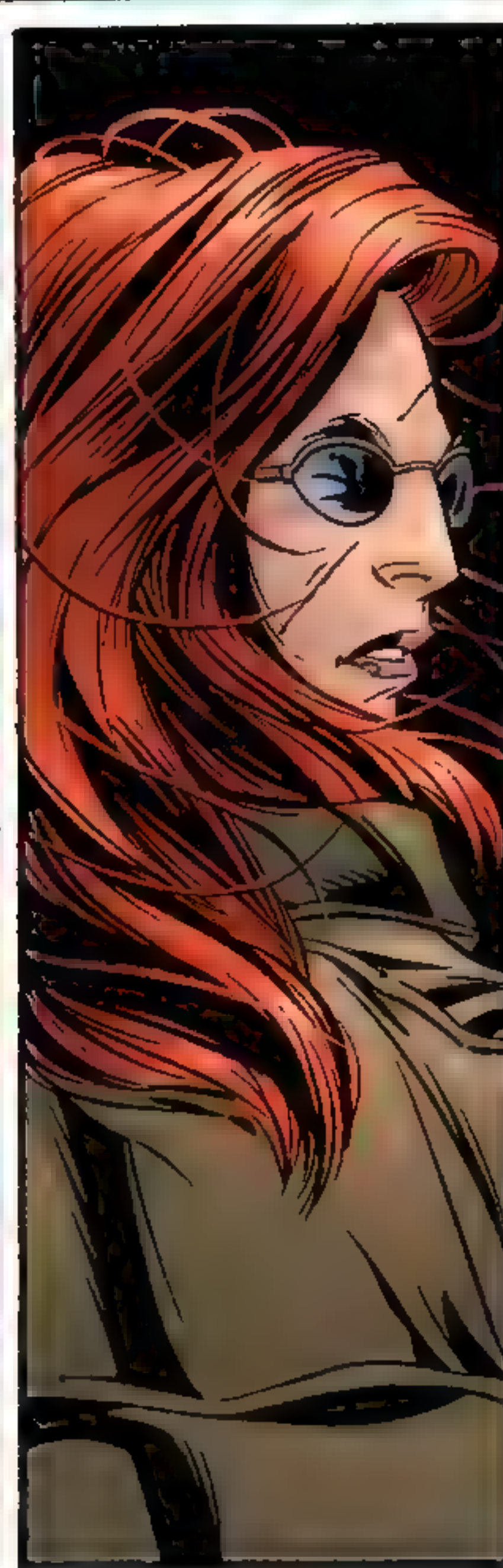
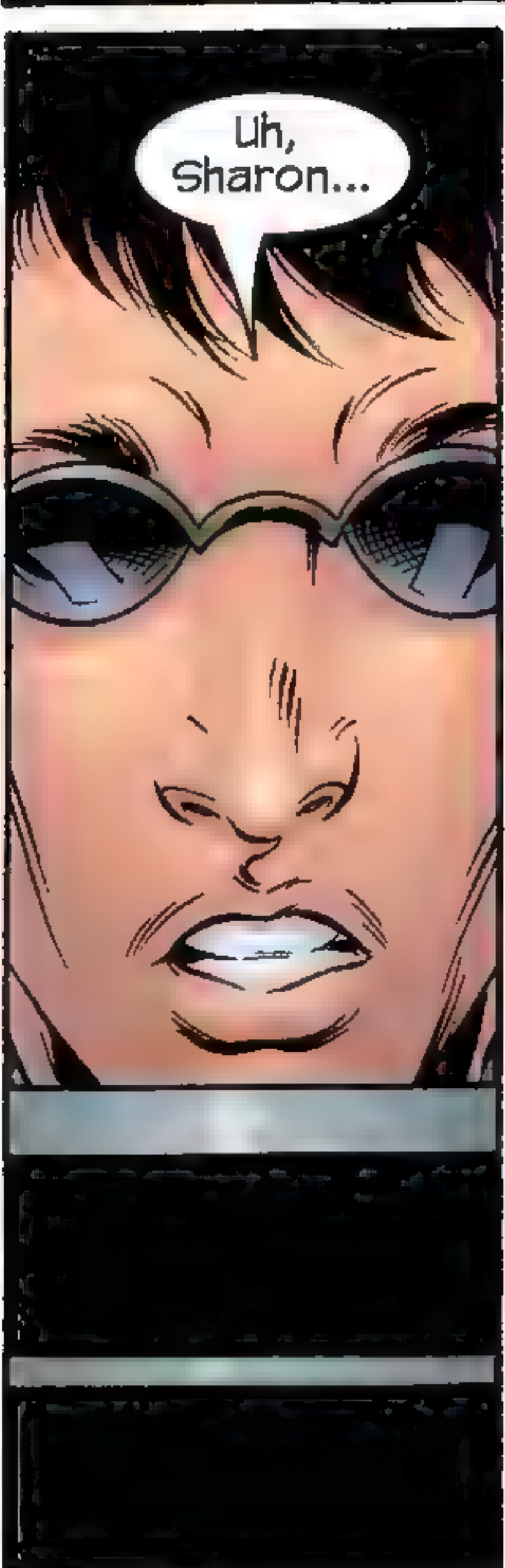
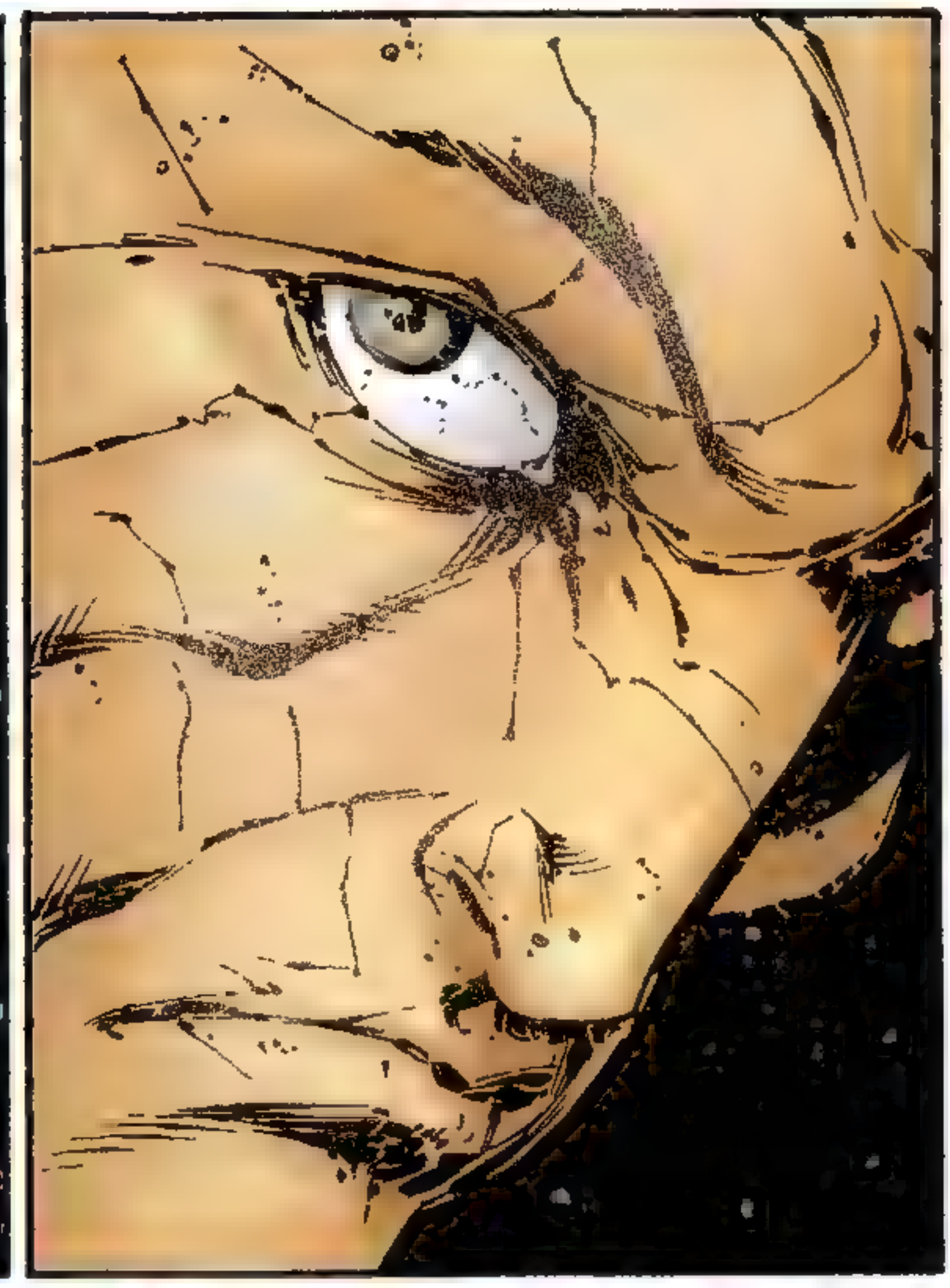
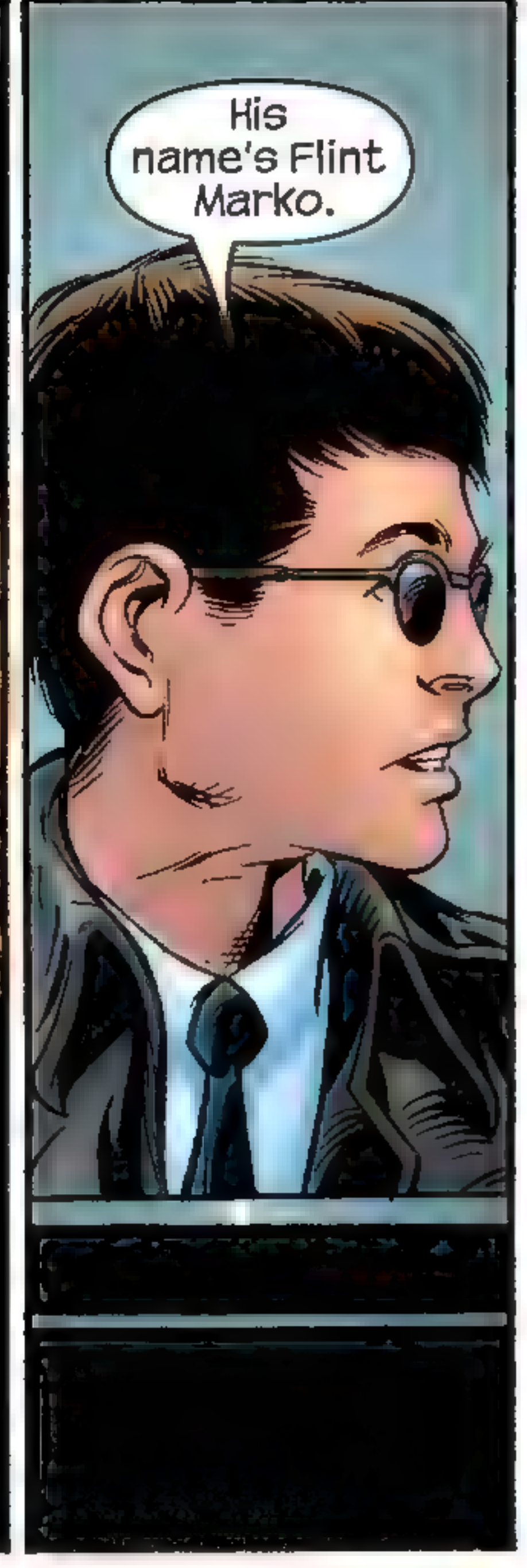
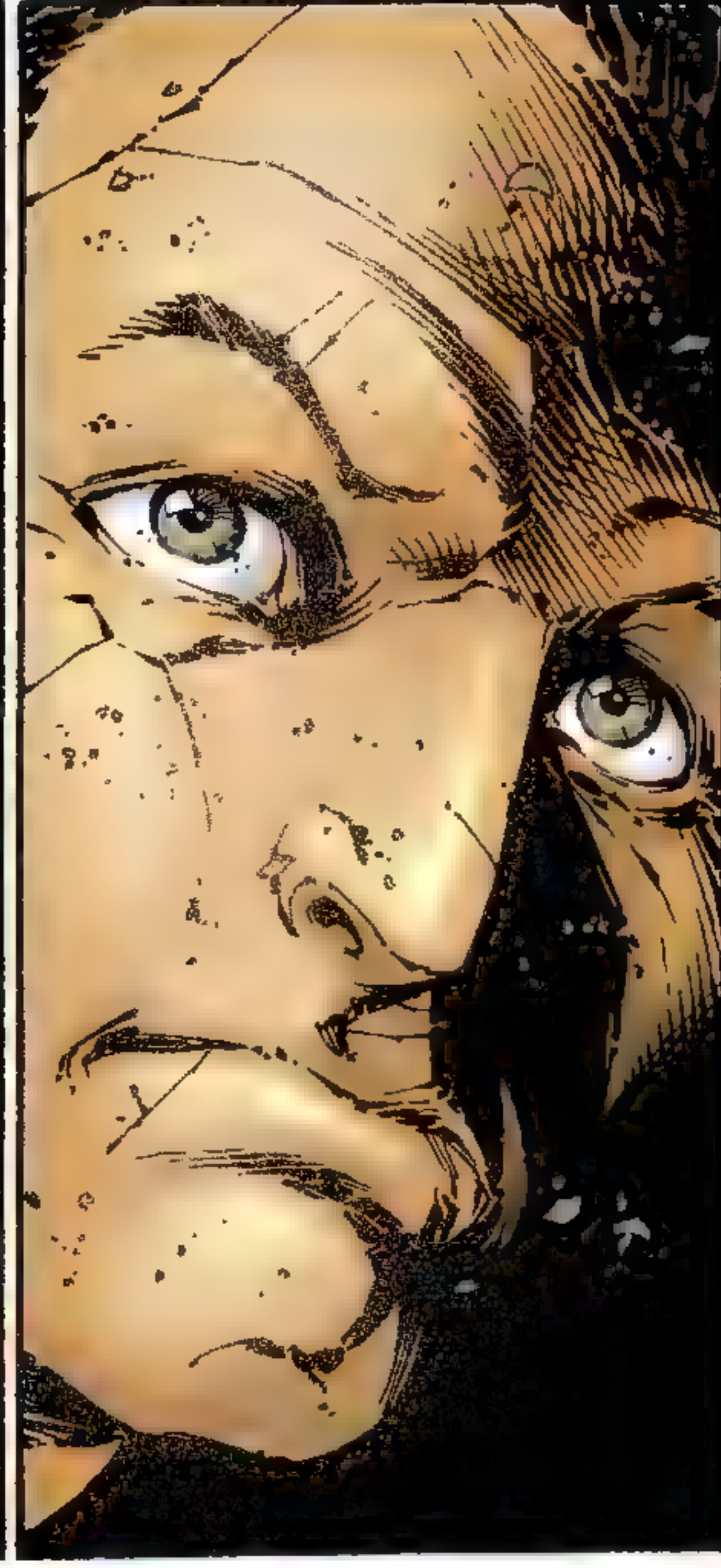
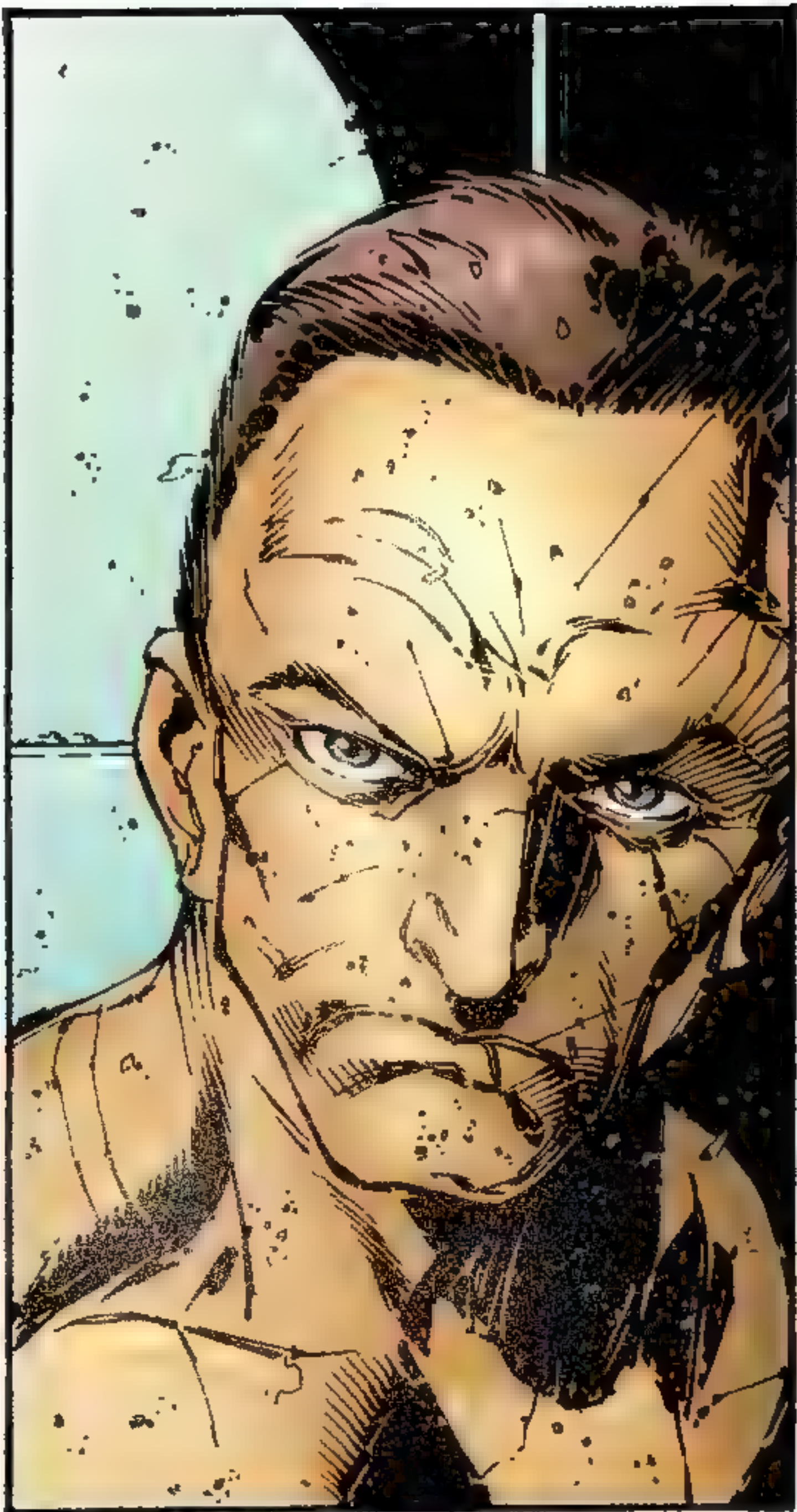


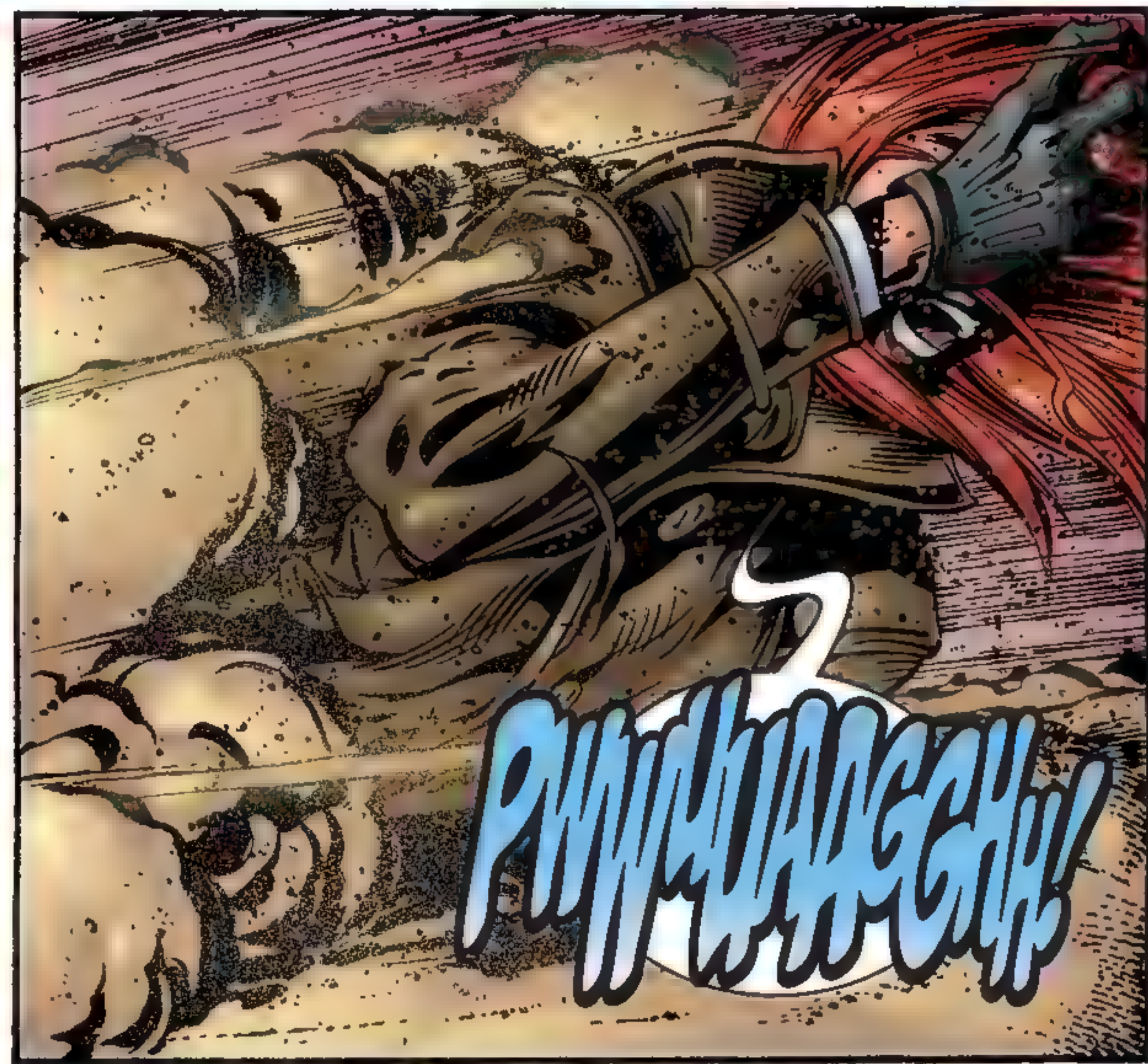
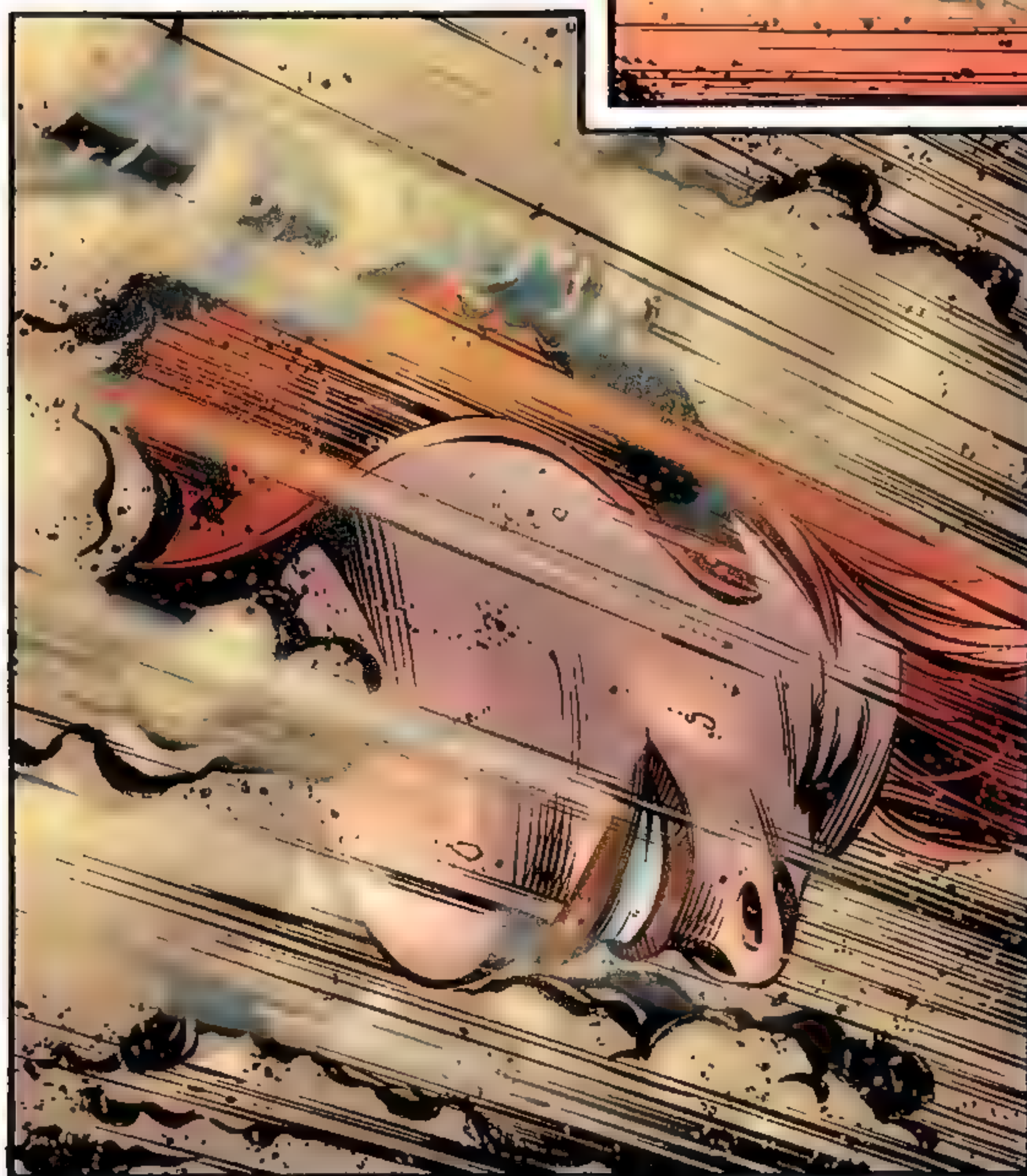
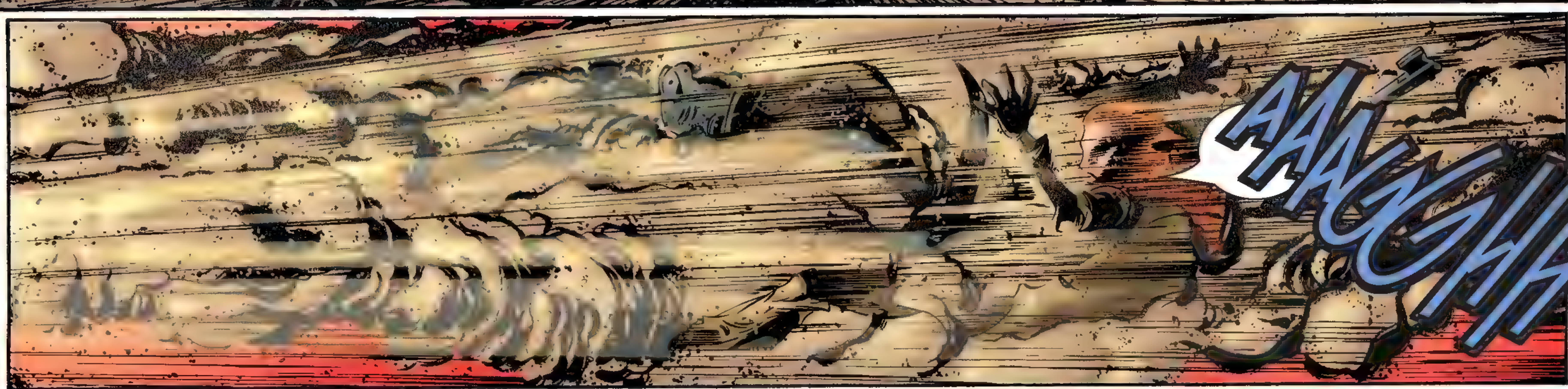
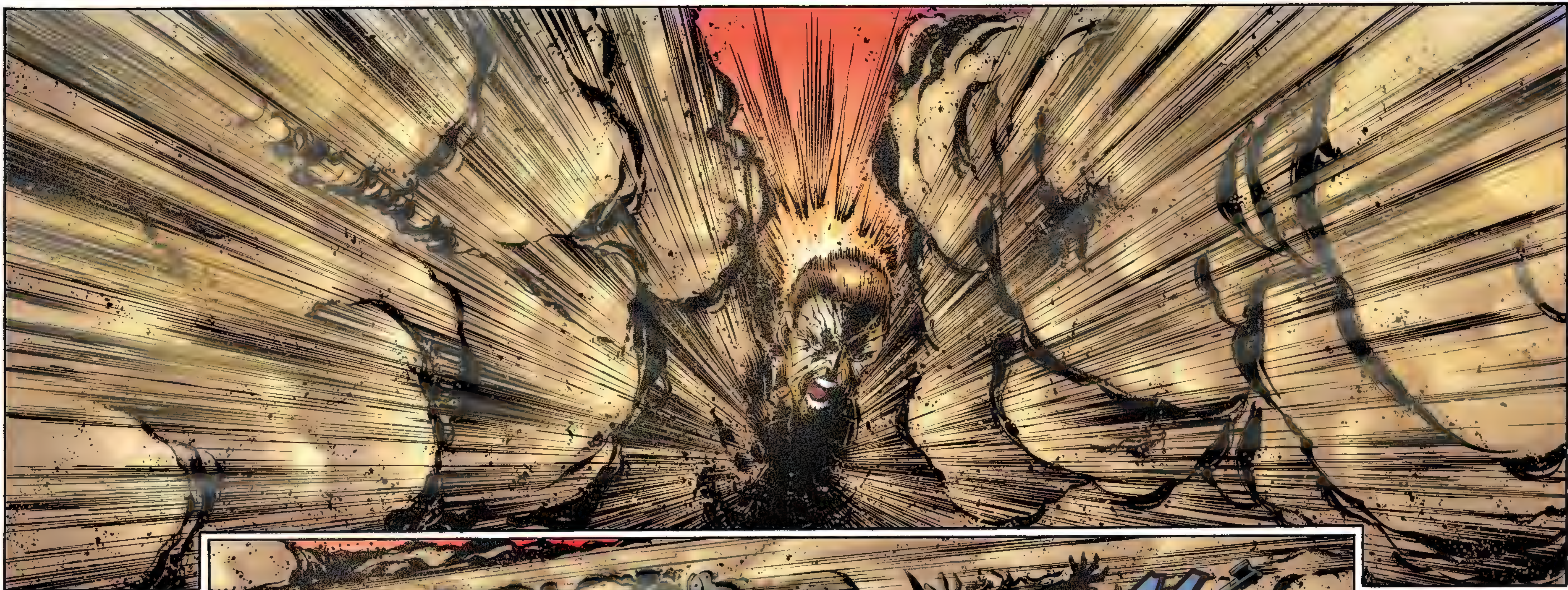
You might wanna take a look...

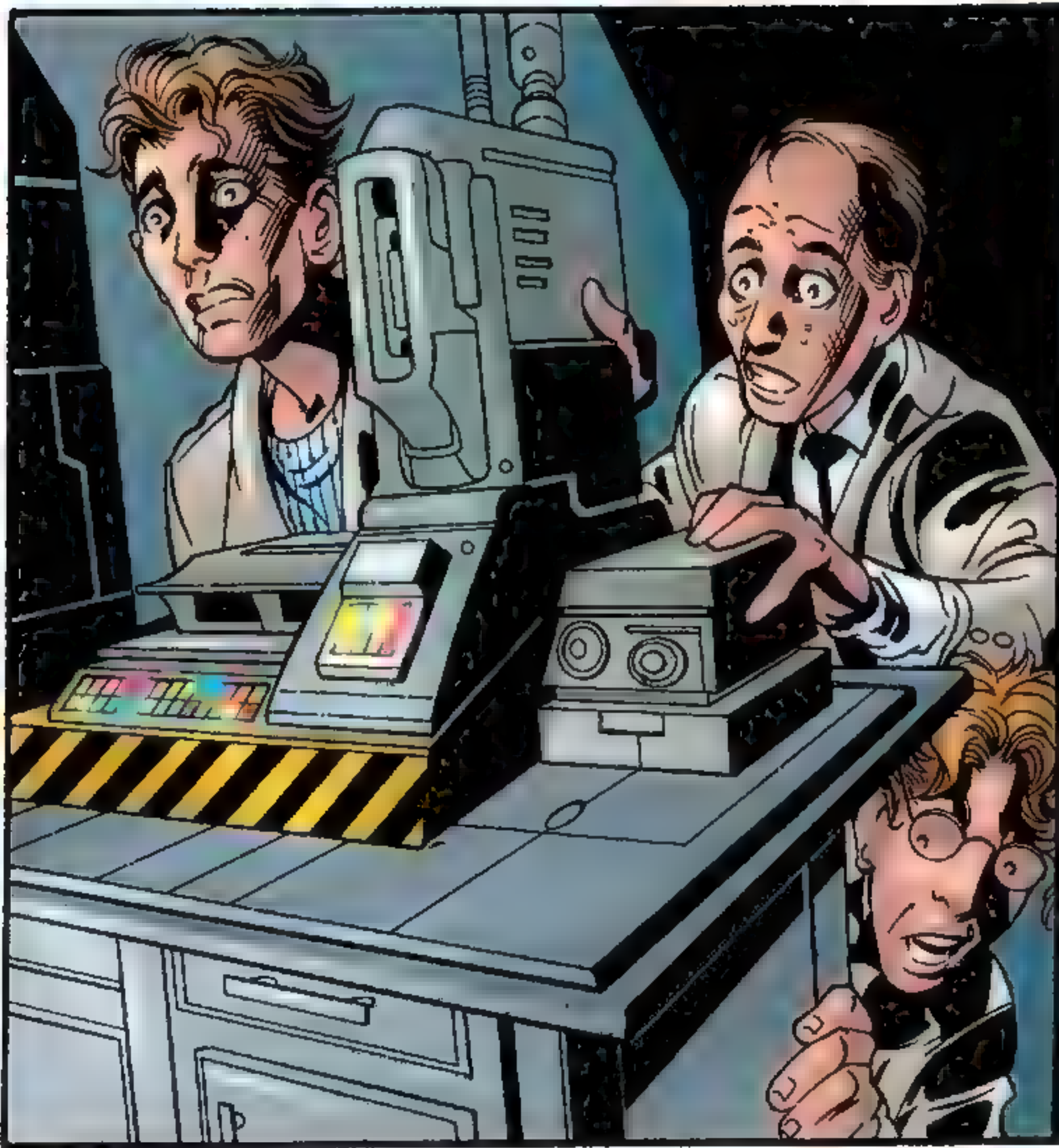
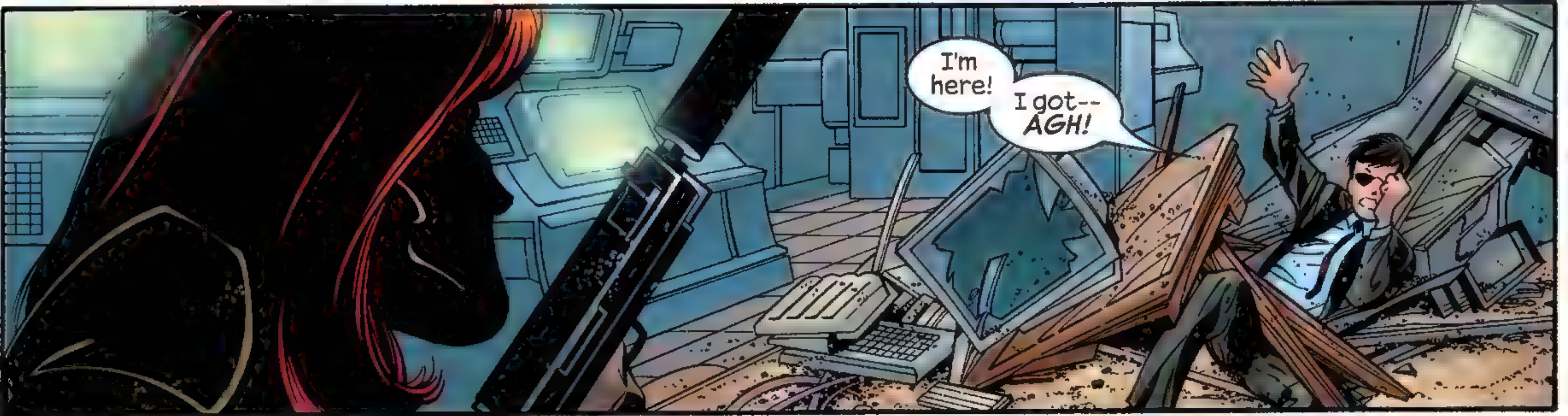
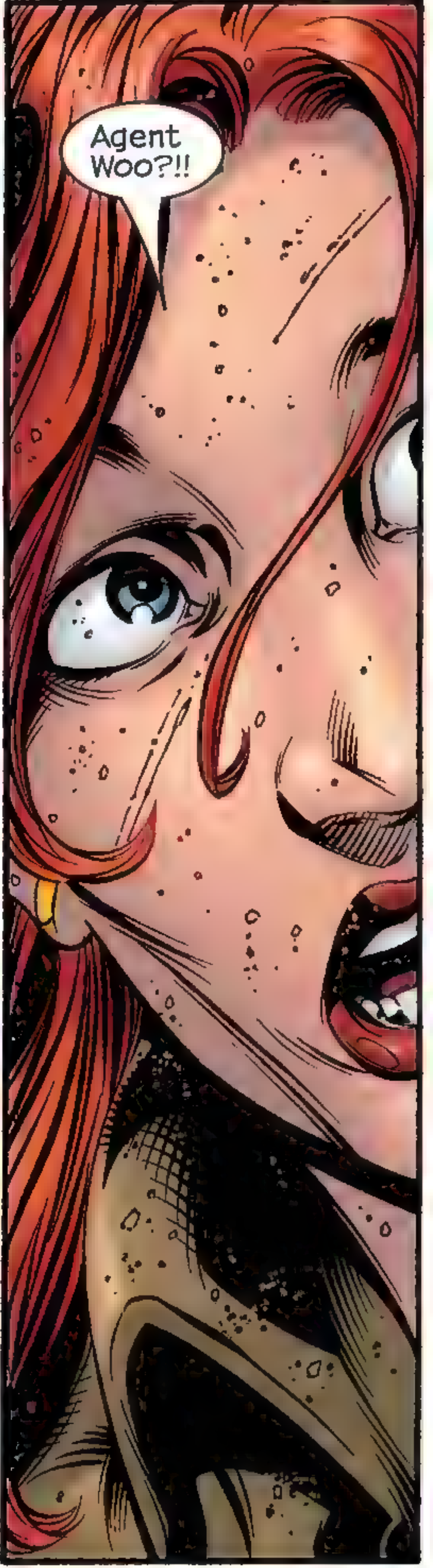
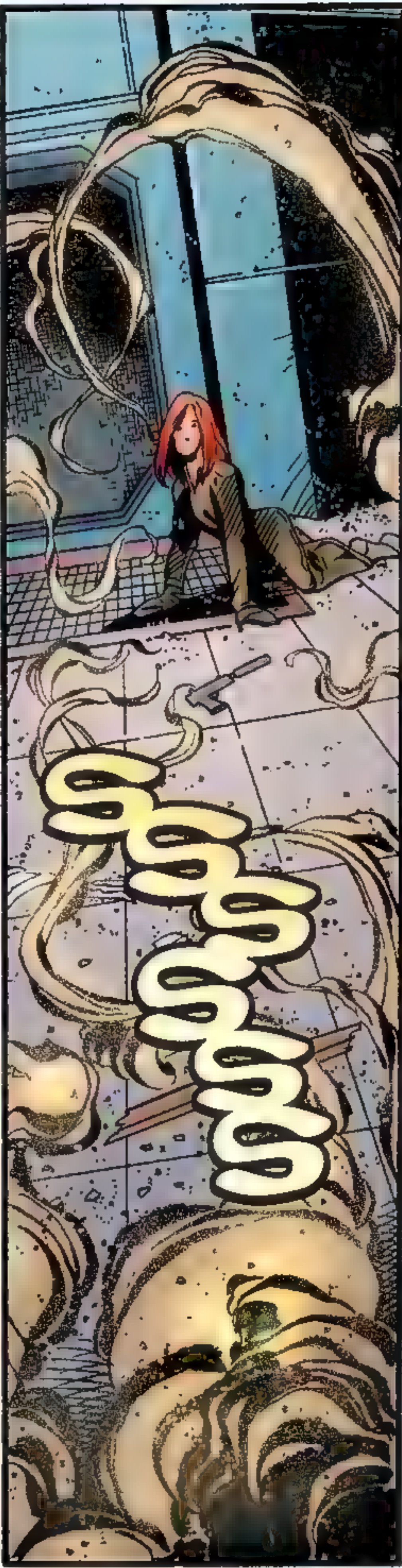
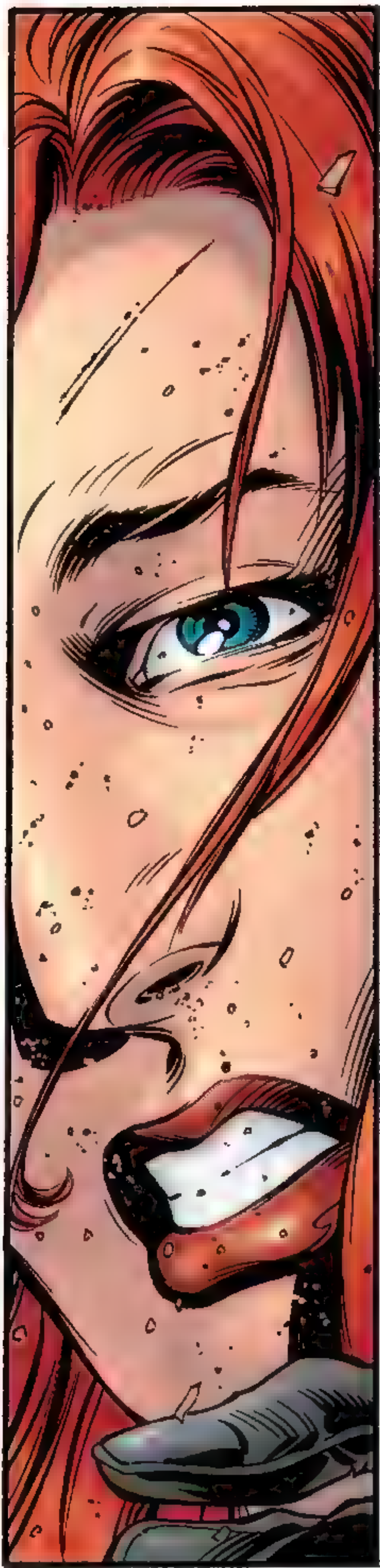


"So, if you're looking for something to blame me for all this... *this* would be it."











"His file reads-- and this is, of course, information I got *after* the fact--

"The file reads: Flint Marko-- career piece of crap.

"He was sent to Ryker's for fifty years for the single worst crime spree I have *ever* seen on paper.

"He tried to rob a Brink's car, failed, ran away, went home, beat up his girlfriend...

"(In what I guess was frustration over the botched job.)

"The cops came on a call from neighbors, Marko beat up one of the cops, put him into the hospital.

"Eventually the cop dies.

"So, all that adds up to about the most disgusting human being I have ever heard of and fifty years in Ryker's.



"How he got into Hammer's custody for genetic experimentation is under investigation, but one could guess money changed hands. *Deals* were made.

"Marko had undergone a smattering of genetic tests and experiments--

"(You'll find the specifics enclosed in the specs report from Hammer's lab.)

"But as it stands his project, Codeword: Sandman, says it all.

"He is able to manipulate his DNA into an organic sand-like quality.

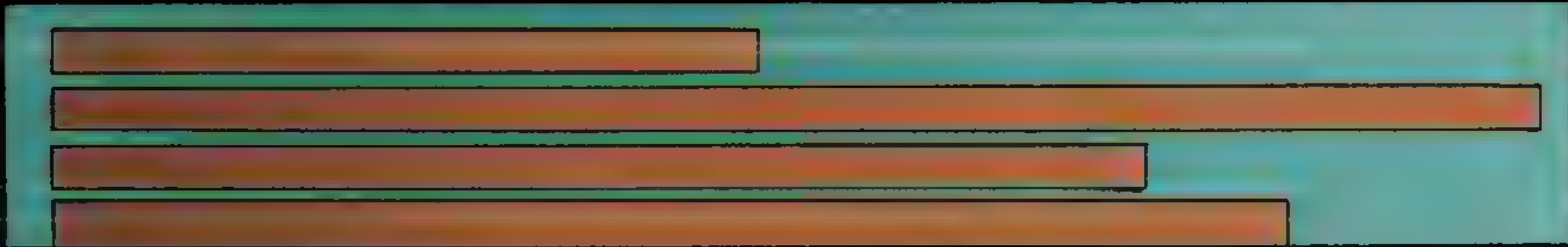
"What this has done to his brain, we don't know yet.

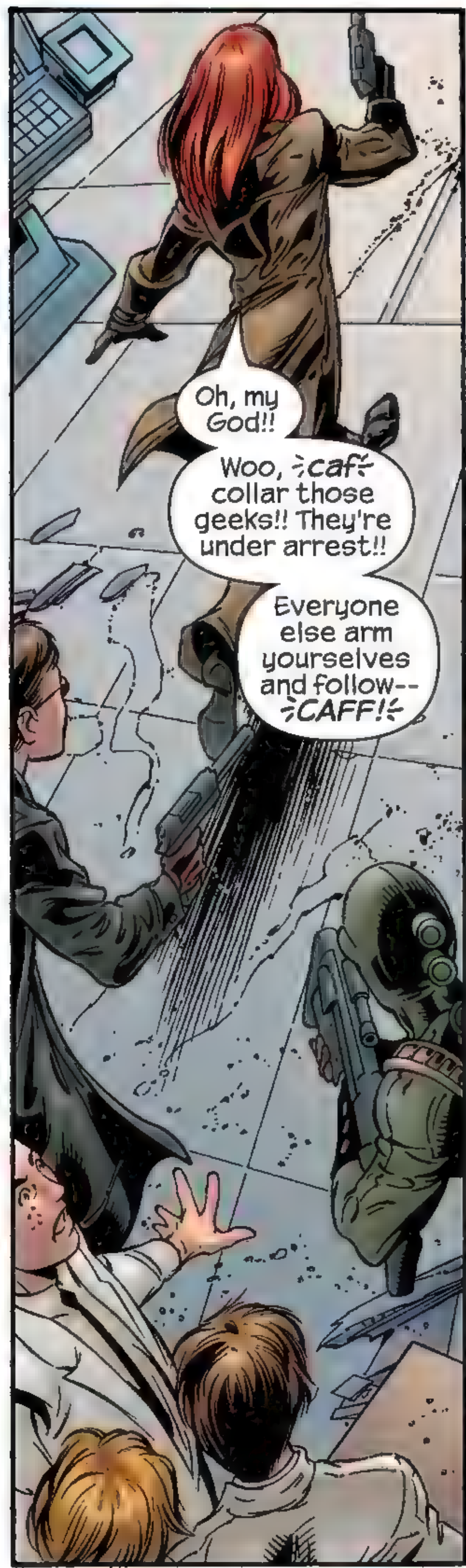
"As he hasn't spoken.

"But now I had an agent down and this Sandman was officially on the loose!"

FLINT MARKO

CODEWORD : SANDMAN





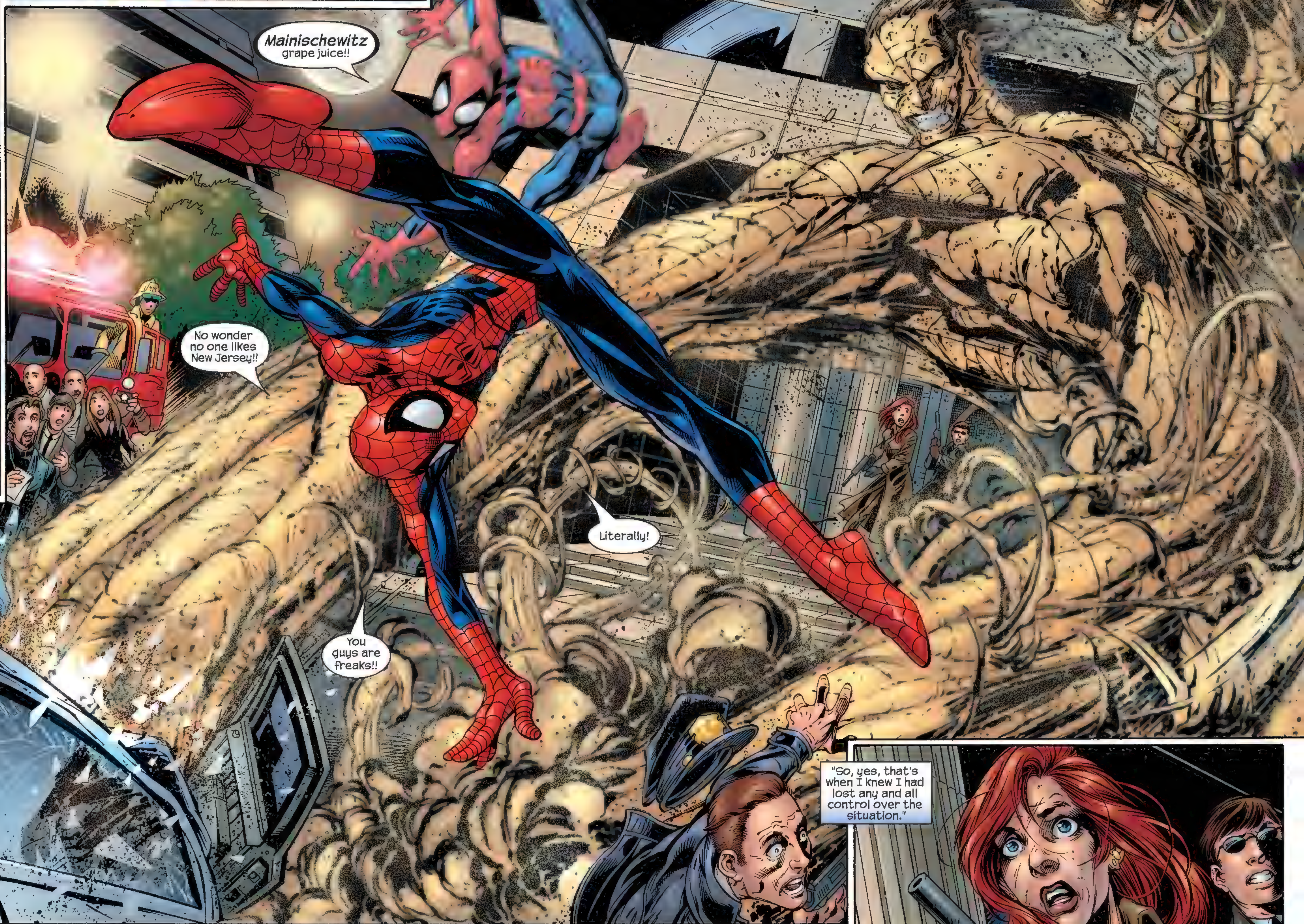
Oh, my God!!

Woo, ~~cafe~~ collar those geeks!! They're under arrest!!

Everyone else arm yourselves and follow--
~~CAFF!!~~



Do not hesitate to--



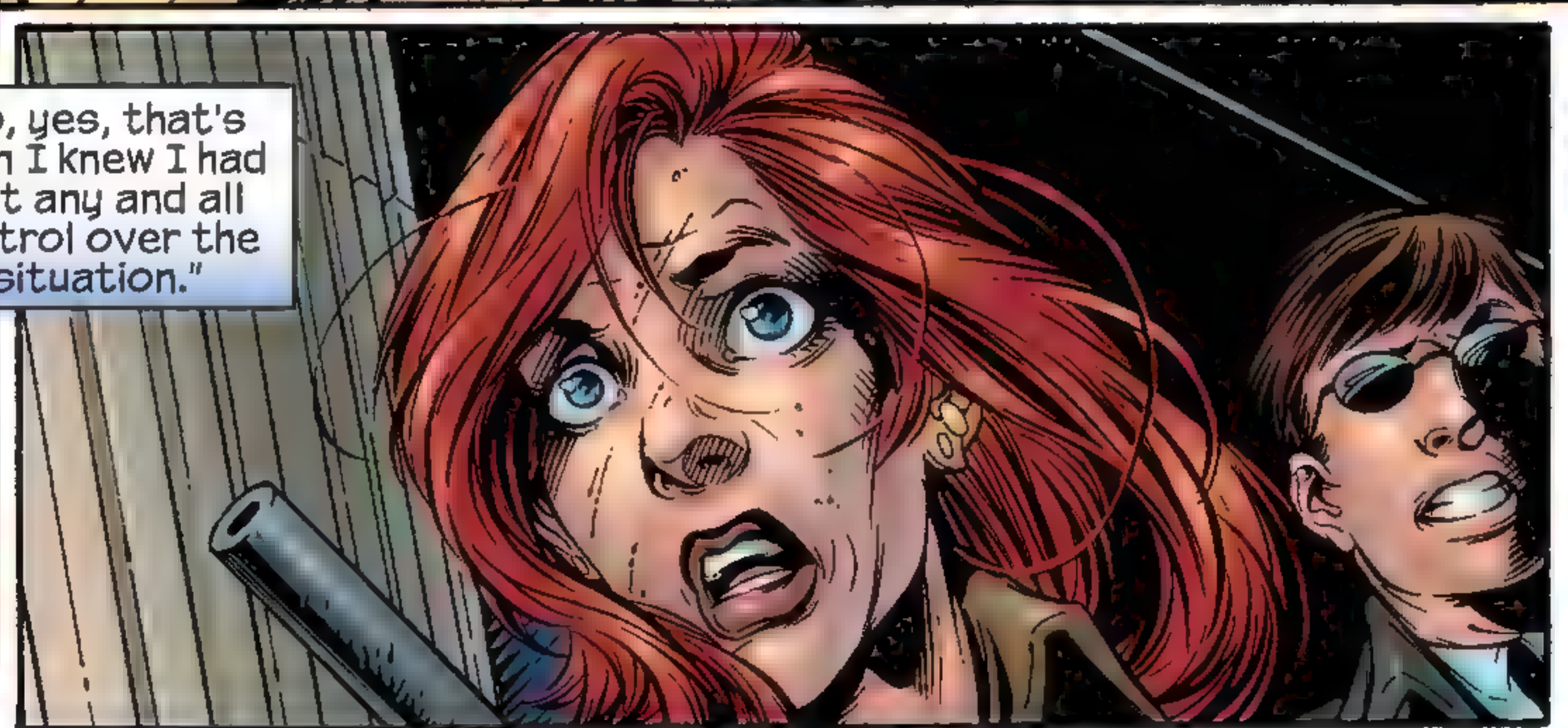
Mainischewitz grape juice!!

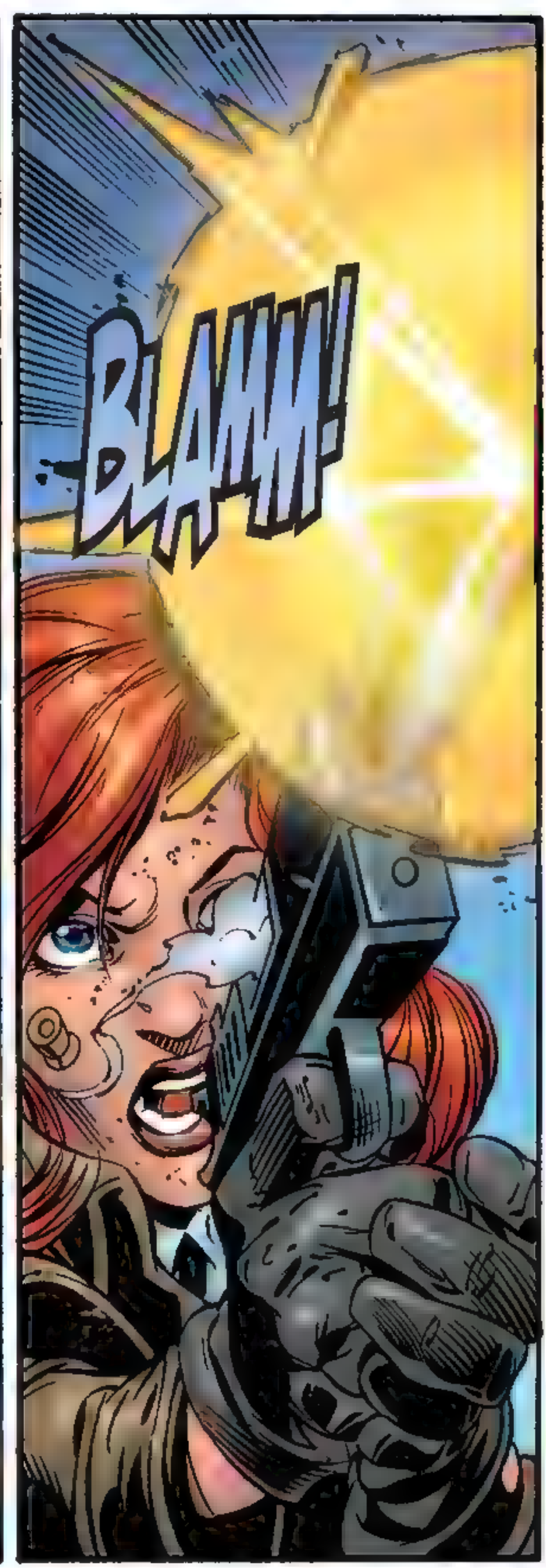
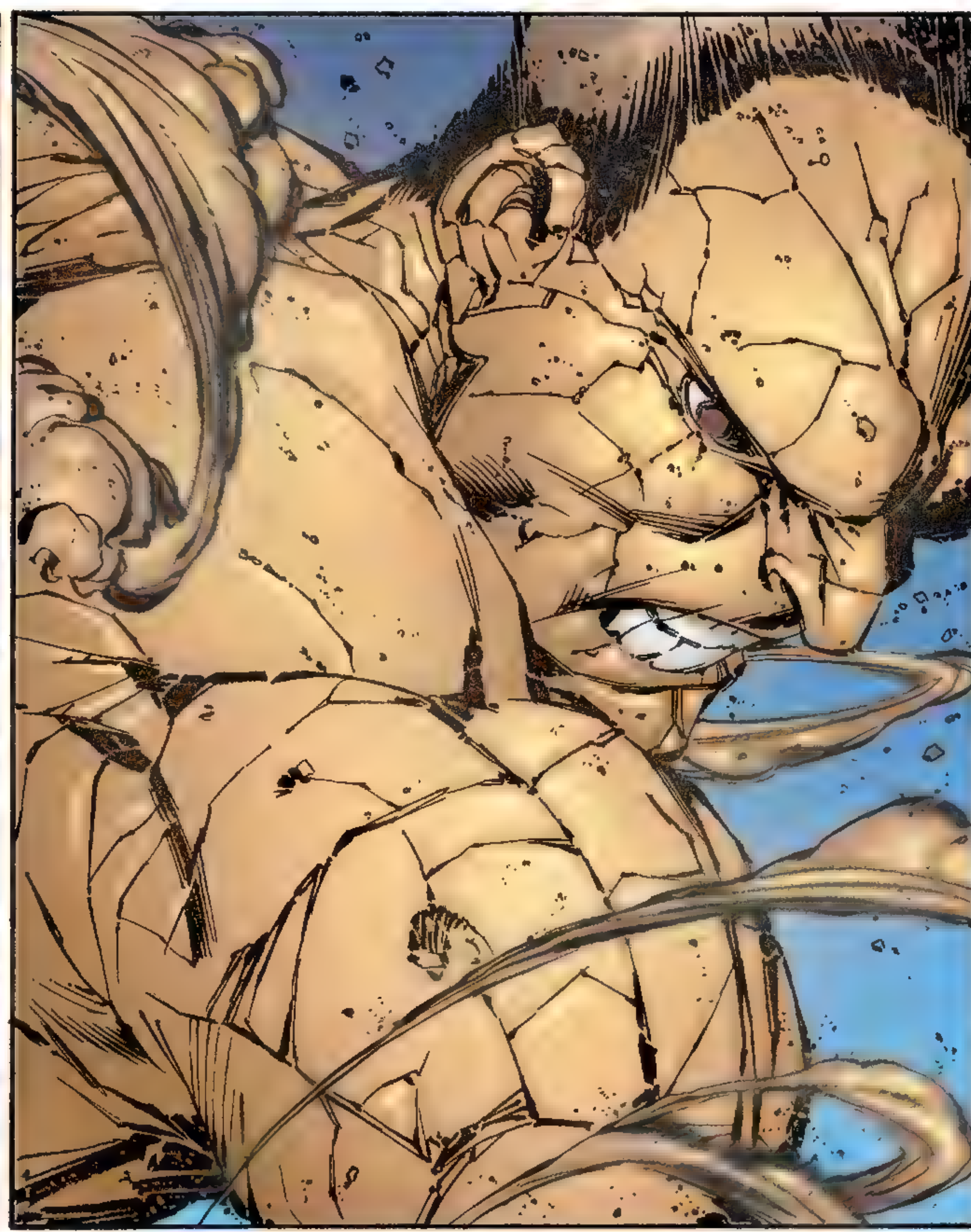
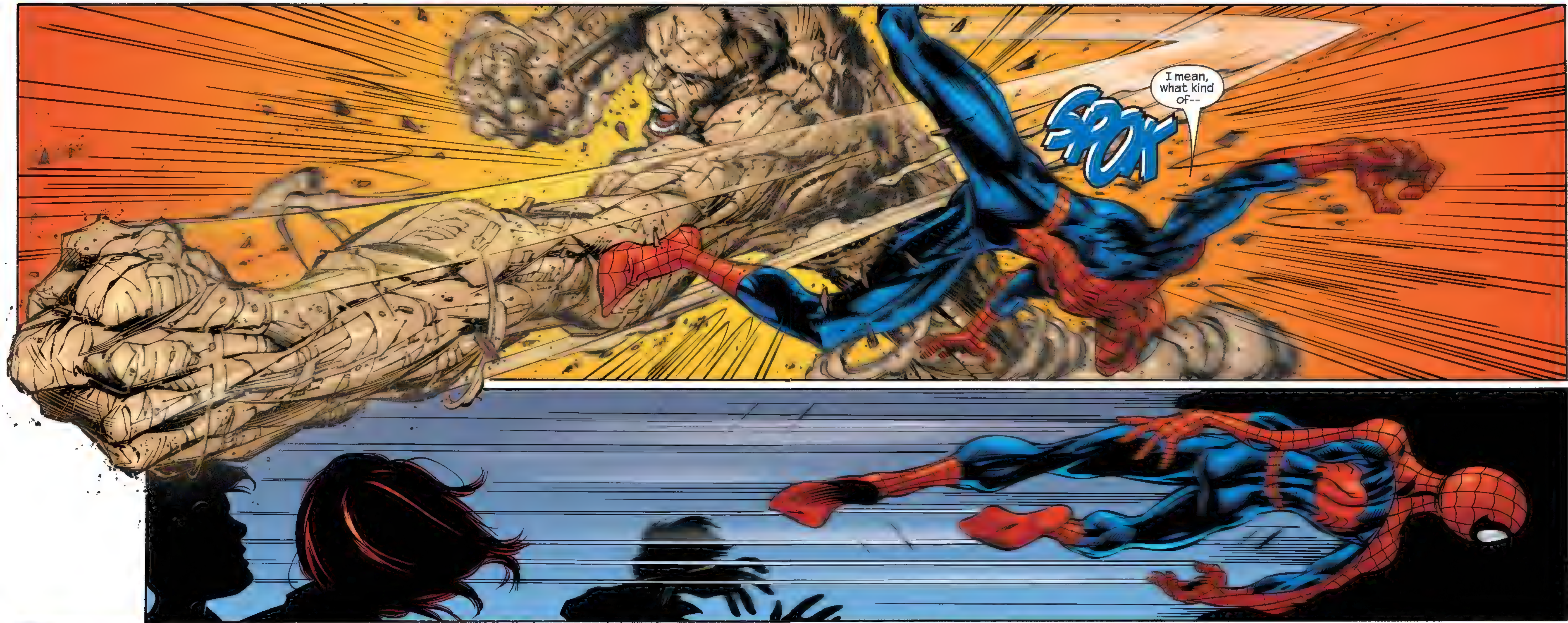
No wonder no one likes New Jersey!!

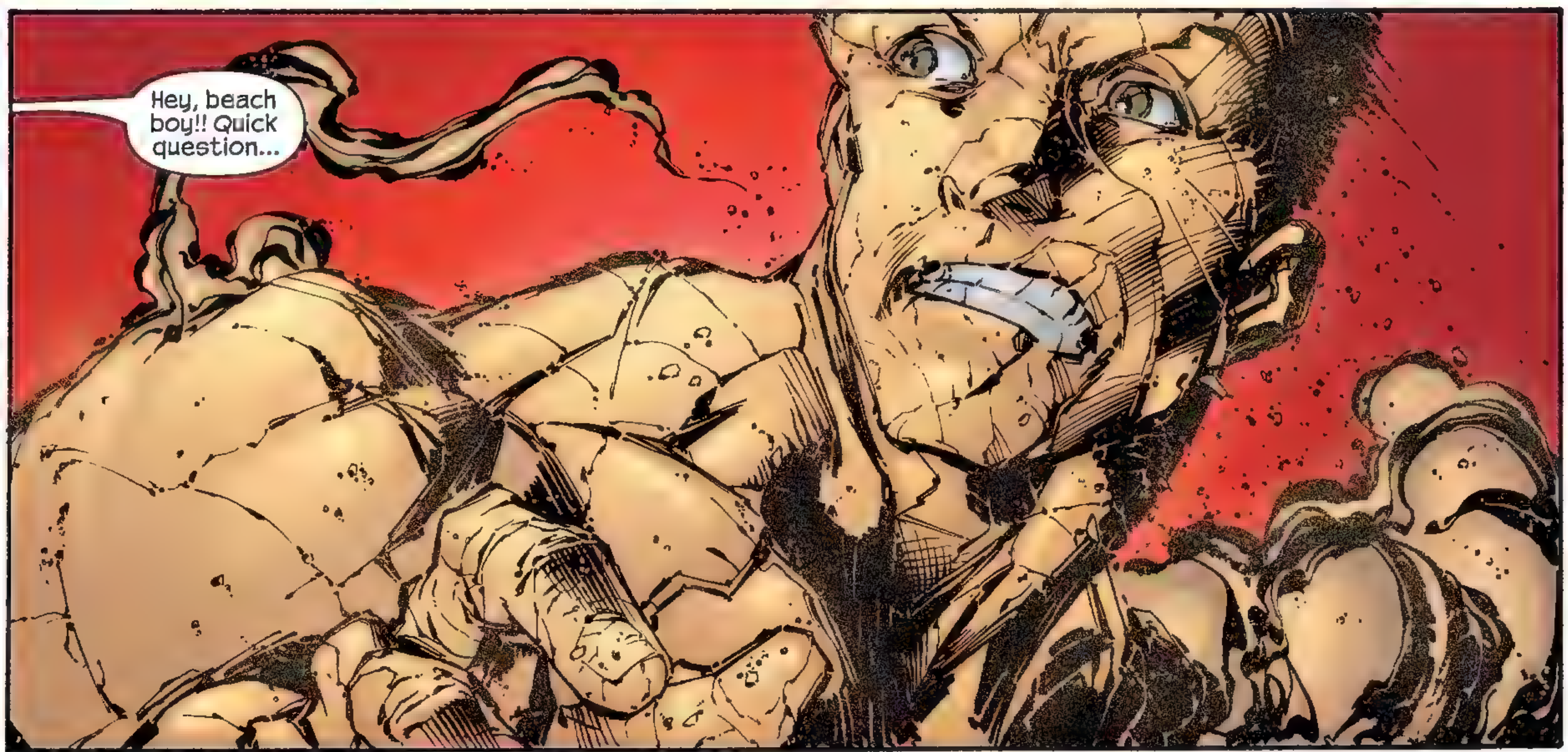
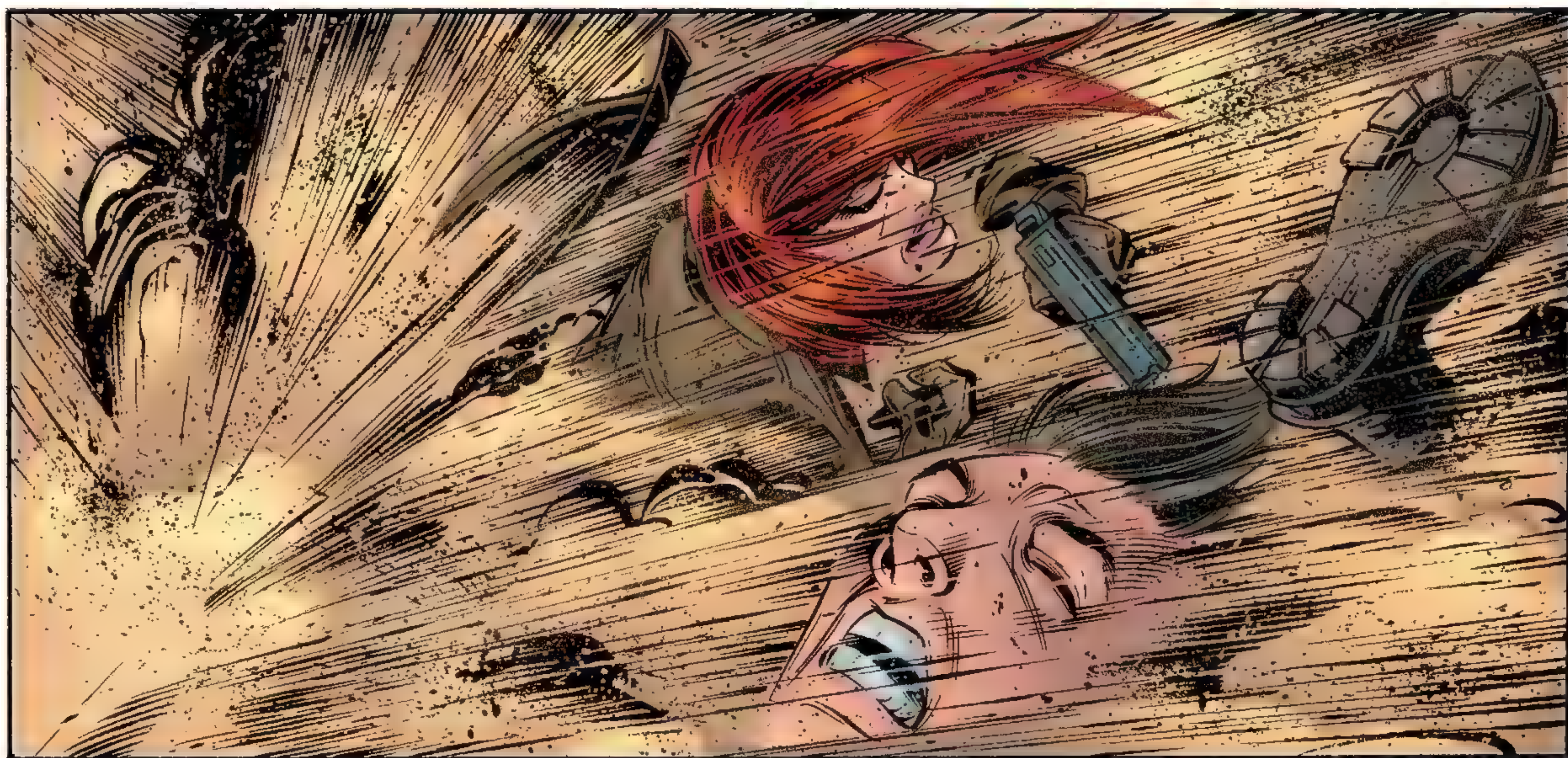
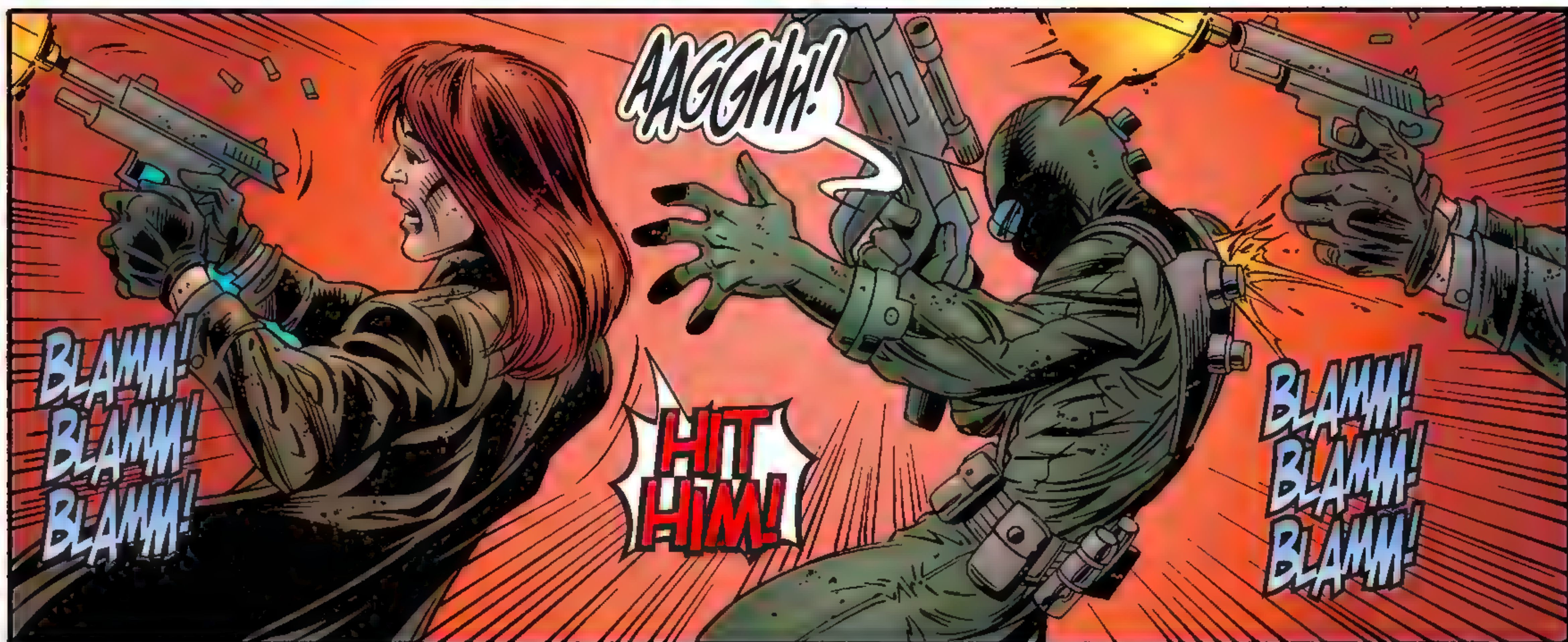
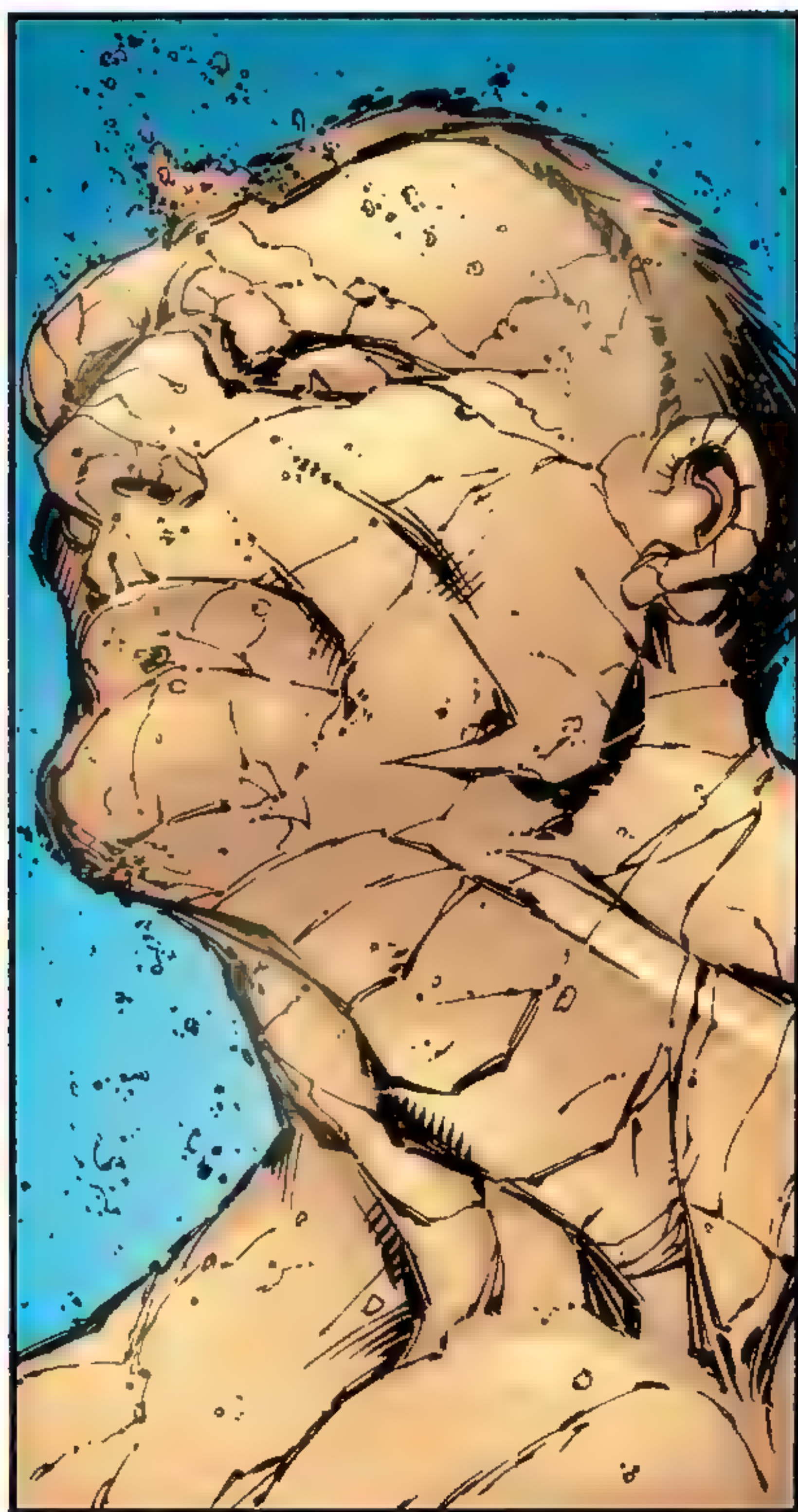
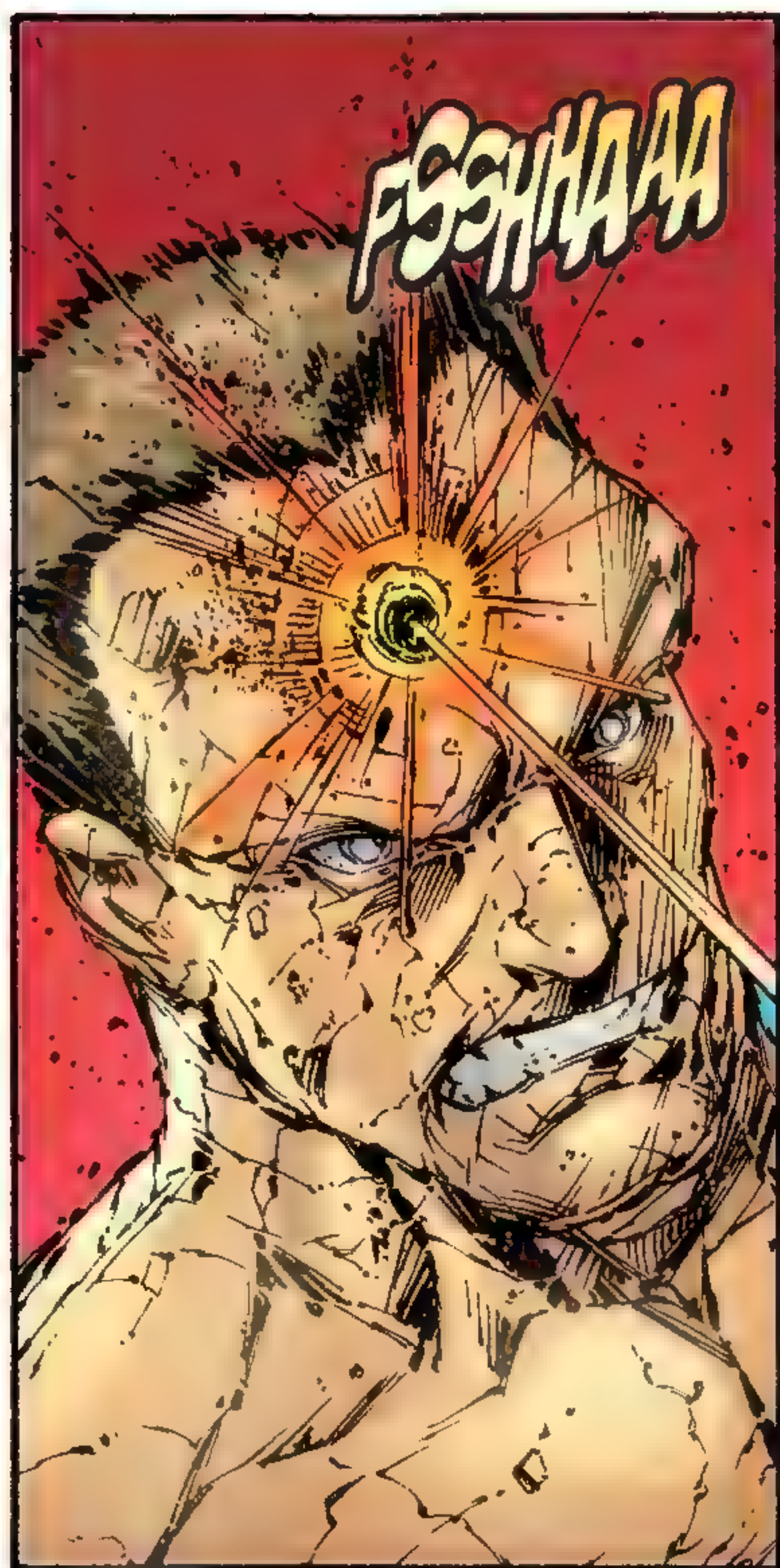
Literally!

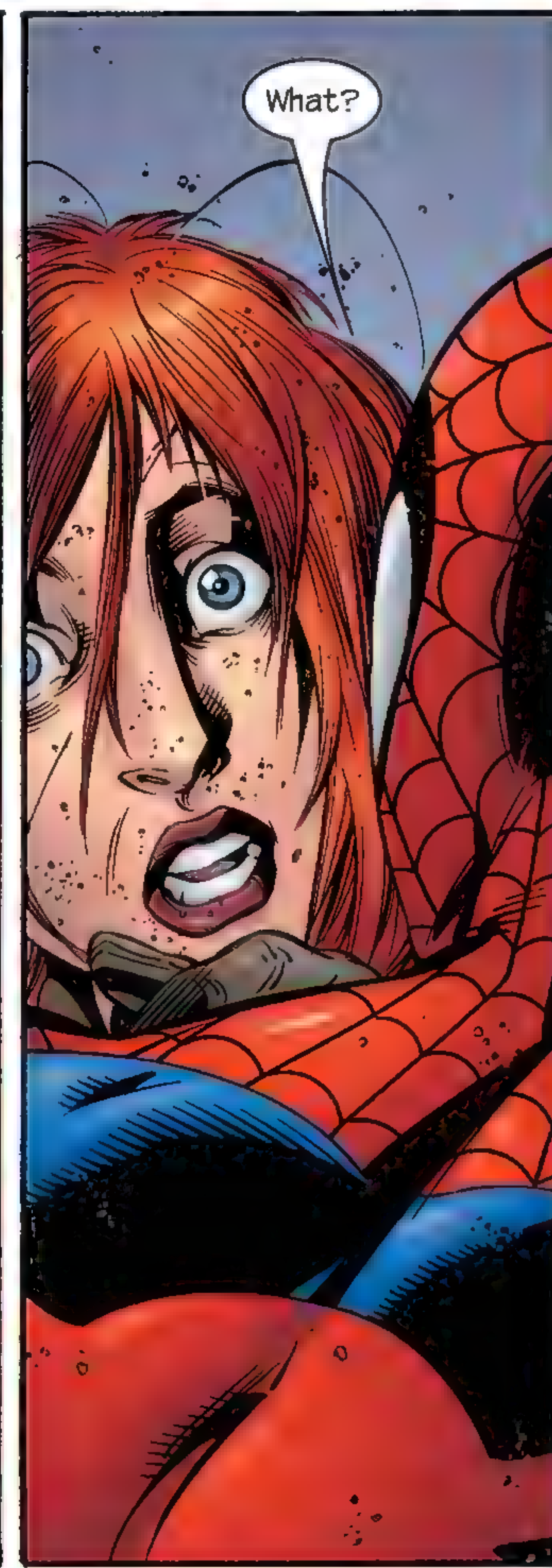
You guys are freaks!!

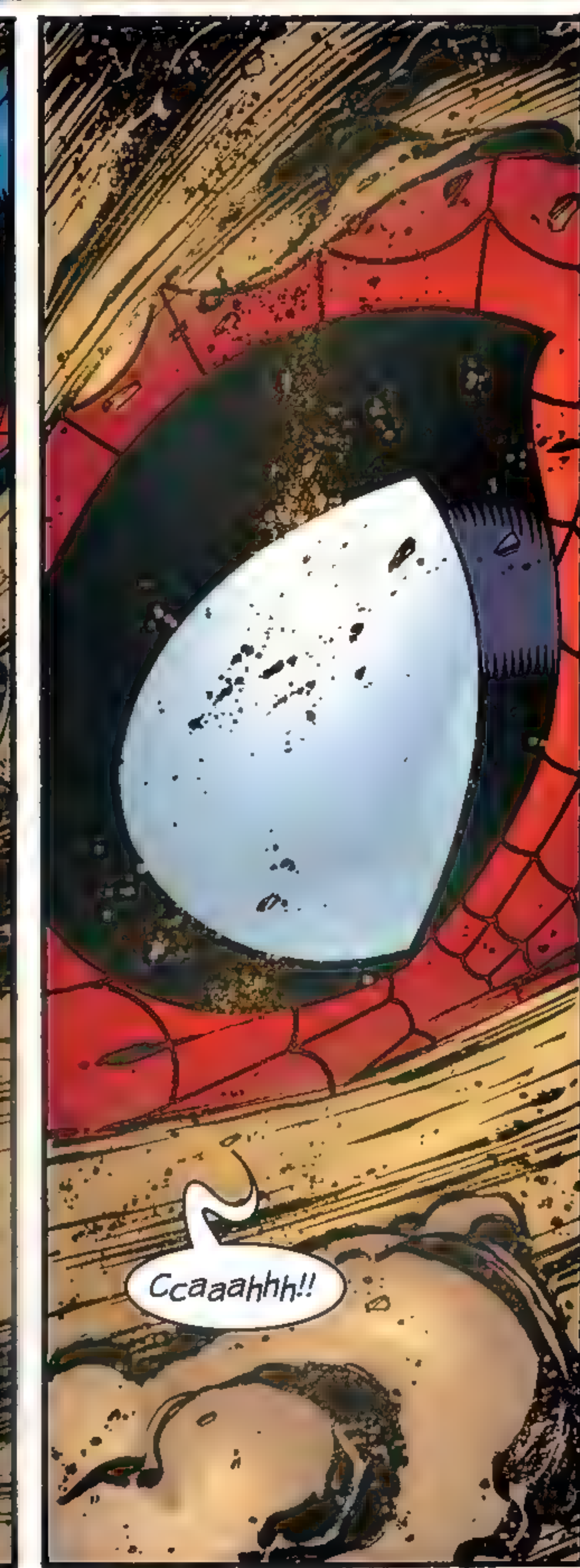
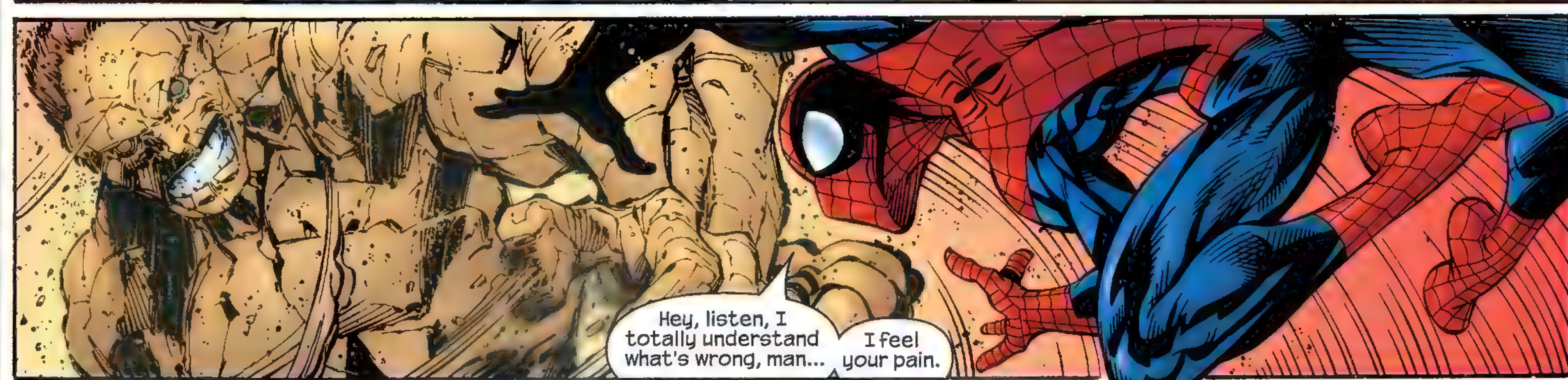
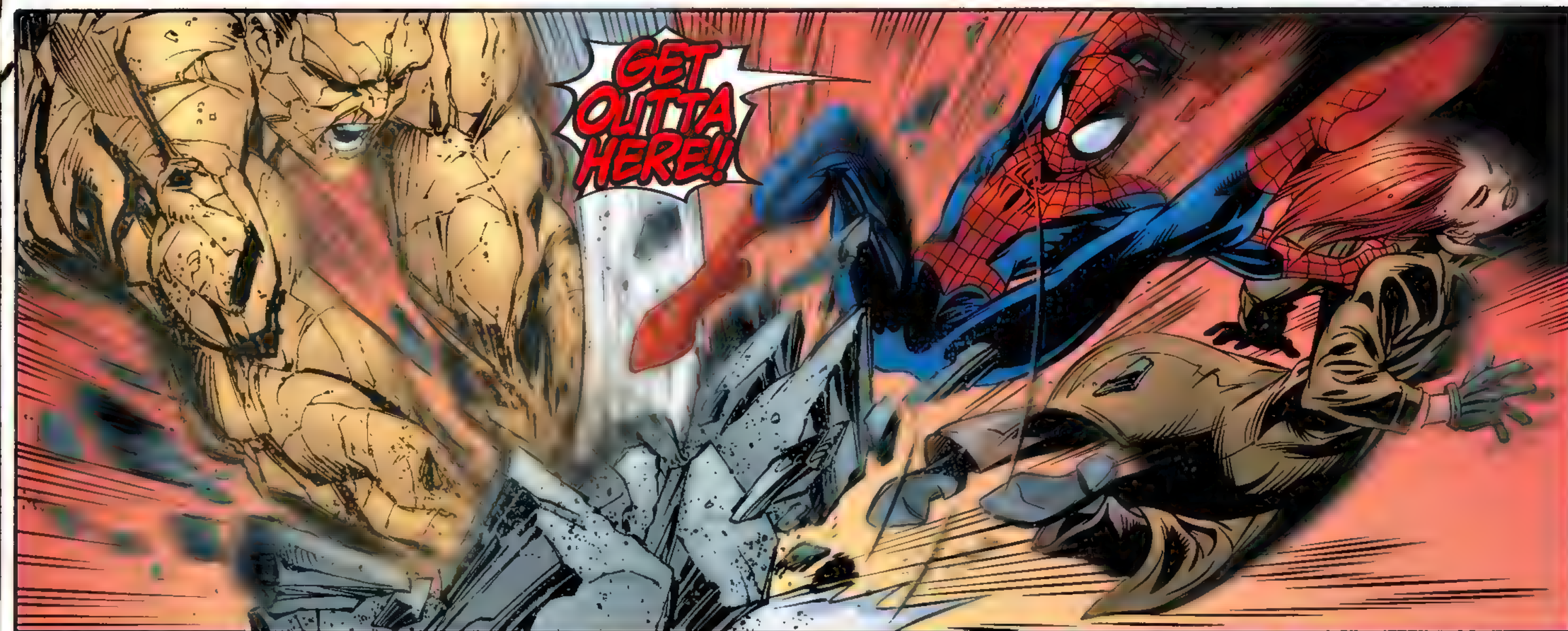
"So, yes, that's when I knew I had lost any and all control over the situation."



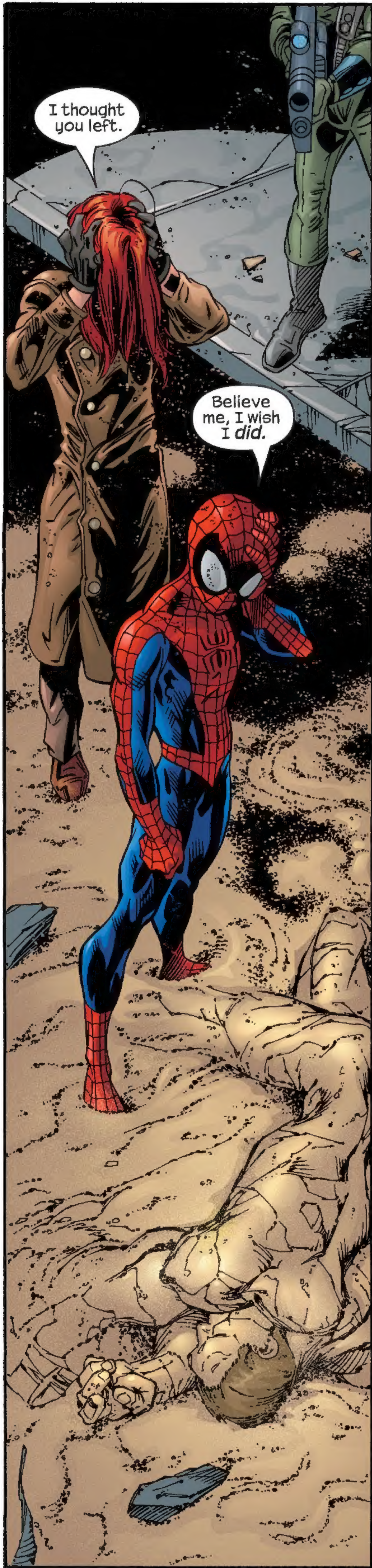














Why didn't you apprehend this Spider-Man character as well?

Fury's orders.

Spider-Man was off limits unless he became a public menace.

You'll have to ask *him* why.

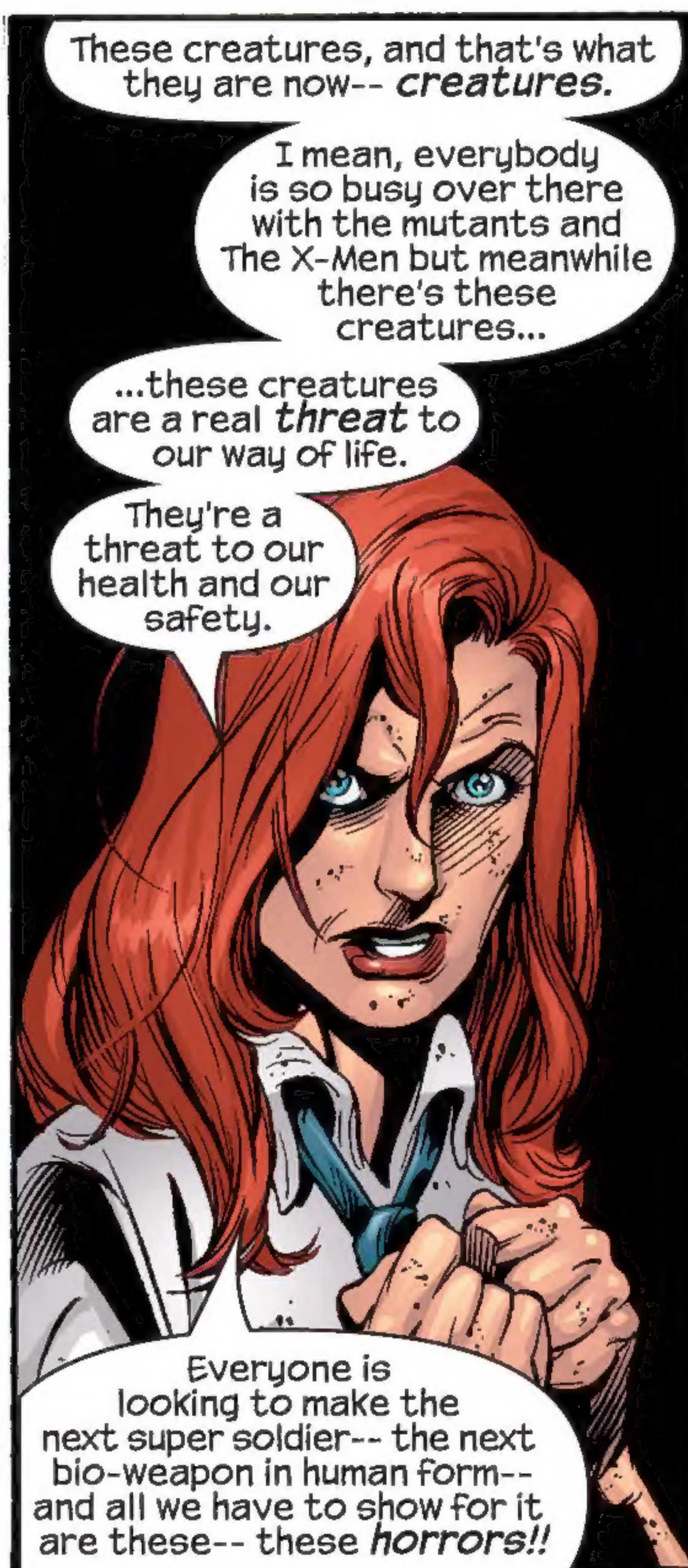


Uh, can I say something on the record before you wrap this up--

If you wish.

I just--I just wanted to say that this is a bad idea.

What is?



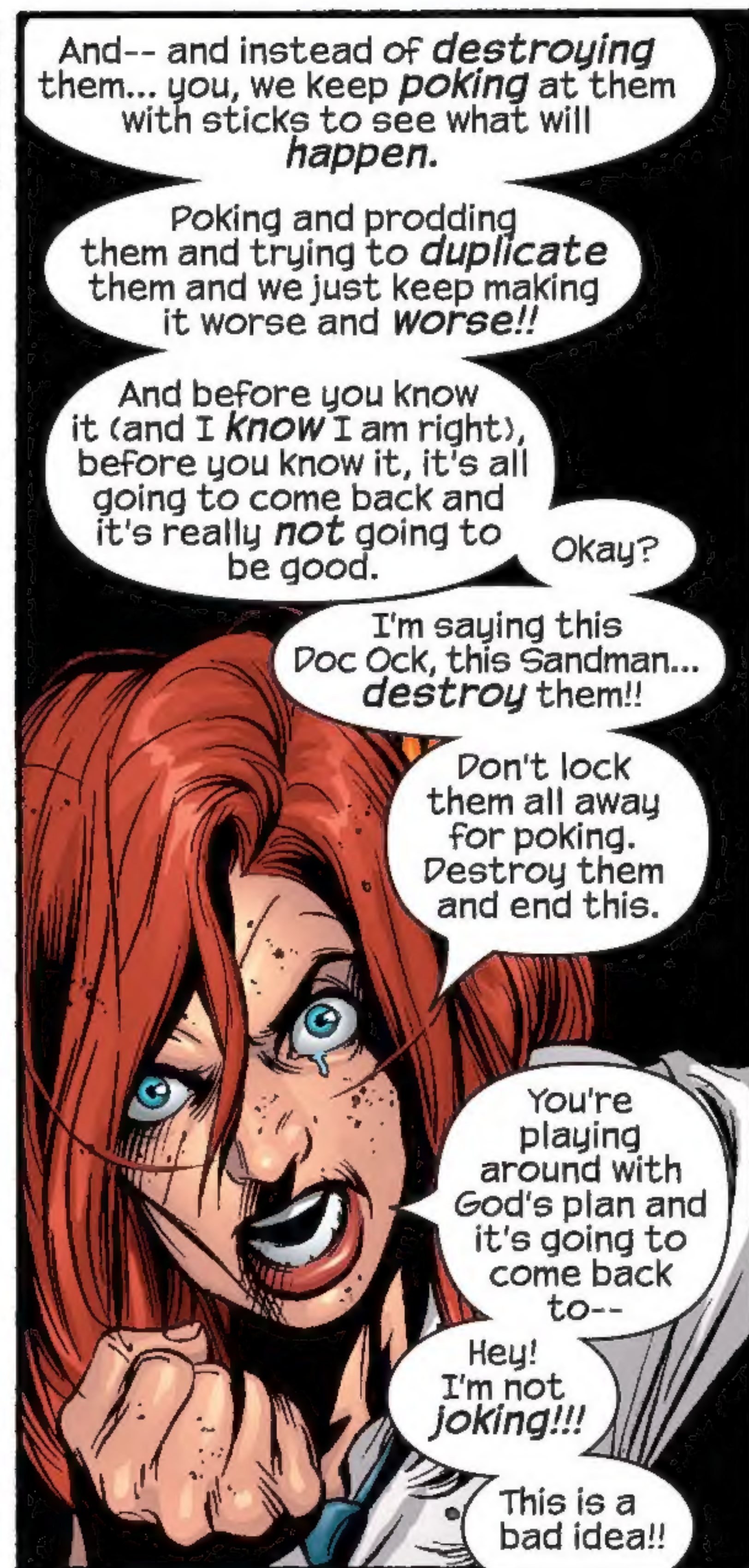
These creatures, and that's what they are now-- *creatures*.

I mean, everybody is so busy over there with the mutants and The X-Men but meanwhile there's these creatures...

...these creatures are a real *threat* to our way of life.

They're a threat to our health and our safety.

Everyone is looking to make the next super soldier-- the next bio-weapon in human form-- and all we have to show for it are these-- these *horrors*!!



And-- and instead of *destroying* them... you, we keep *poking* at them with sticks to see what will *happen*.

Poking and prodding them and trying to *duplicate* them and we just keep making it worse and *worse*!!

And before you know it (and I *know* I am right), before you know it, it's all going to come back and it's really *not* going to be good.

Okay?

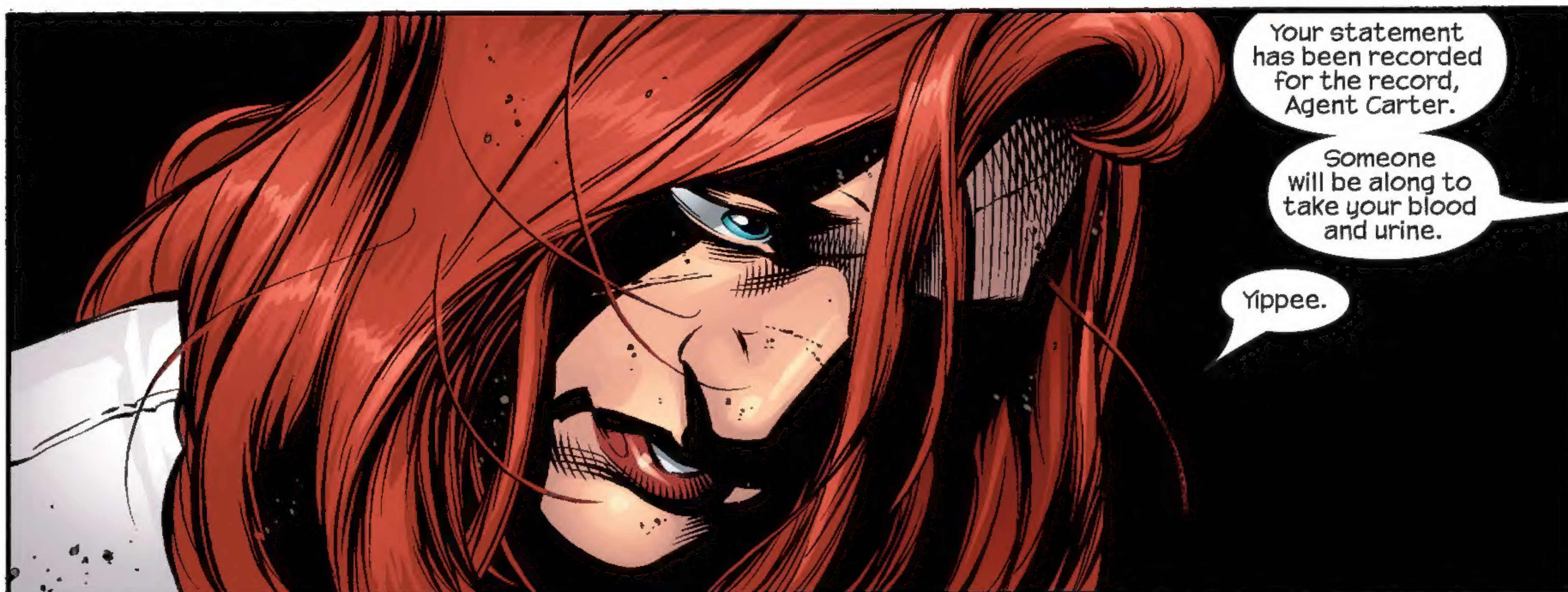
I'm saying this Doc Ock, this Sandman... *destroy* them!!

Don't lock them all away for poking. Destroy them and end this.

You're playing around with God's plan and it's going to come back to--

Hey! I'm not *joking*!!!

This is a bad idea!!



Your statement has been recorded for the record, Agent Carter.

Someone will be along to take your blood and urine.

Yippee.



SON OF

VULTURON